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Recreation



DECEMBER, 1950



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Recreation



THE MAGAZINE OF THE RECREATION MOVEMENT

DECEMBER 1950

Editor, JOSEPH PRENDERCAST

Managing Editor, DOROTHY DONALDSON

Business Manager, ROSE JAY SCHWARTZ

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On the Cover

The perfect day. Flawless blue sky, crisp, still air sparkling with particles of frost, snow squeaking underfoot; and all the trees are Christmas trees. Fun outside, fun inside—with turkey fragrance drifting from the oven. A day for *A Very Merry Christmas*. Photo courtesy of Sun Valley News Bureau, Steve Hannagan Associates, New York.

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NEXT MONTH

A new-sized magazine; new features. Some of the articles: Fables About Skiing; Those Who Delight in Music; Administrative Planning; Building a Program for Girls; What Does a Hobby Get You? There will be craft suggestions, hobby suggestions, personnel news, and among other things, of course, the usual party. *Don't miss this new magazine.* (See outside back cover of this issue.)

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A Service Organization Supported by Voluntary Contributions

Executive Director, JOSEPH PRENDERGAST



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Affiliate membership in the National Recreation Association is open to all non-profit private and public organizations whose function is wholly or primarily the provision or promotion of recreation services or which include recreation as an important part of their total program and whose cooperation in the work of the association would, in the opinion of the association's Board of Directors, further the ends of the national recreation movement.

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Active associate membership in the National Recreation Association is open to all individuals who are actively engaged on a full-time or part-time employed basis or as volunteers in a nonprofit private or public recreation organization and whose cooperation in the work of the association would, in the opinion of the association's Board of Directors, further the ends of the national recreation movement.

Contributors

The continuation of the work of the National Recreation Association from year to year is made possible by the splendid cooperation of several hundred volunteer sponsors throughout the country, and the generous contributions of thousands of supporters of this movement to bring health, happiness and creative living to the boys and girls and the men and women of America. If you would like to join in the support of this movement, you may send your contribution direct to the association.

The National Recreation Association is a nationwide, nonprofit, nonpolitical and nonsectarian civic organization, established in 1906 and supported by voluntary contributions, and dedicated to the service of all recreation executives, leaders and agencies,

public and private, to the end that every child in America shall have a place to play in safety and that every person in America, young and old, shall have an opportunity for the best and most satisfying use of his expanding leisure time.

For further information regarding the association's services and membership, please write to the Executive Director, National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

What Recreation Means



Reverend Paul Moore, Jr.

• The opera house lies silent for a quivering moment while the last crescendo is absorbed into the darkness—then there breaks forth a rush of applause as if the hearts of the audience must return

the passion of the last scene. Up from the bottom of every soul comes a community of joy, purging, thrilling and satisfying the wish of every man to be a noble creature.

The parish hall of a downtown city parish is alive—wriggling forms swarm over a wrestling mat; the air whirrs; the floors bounce in rhythm with the rope skippers; and, down at the end, the older ones dance, swaying to another rhythm. Quietly the babies eye the movement; while the elders talk and smile and duck the bouncing ball. They feel different; they leave much happier.

Two men sit by a campfire in the rain and contentedly eat meat from a can. They shiver; they ache. They can look forward to no relief for their discomfort until the sun bakes the dampness of their clothes. And yet, beneath the pain of the evening is an underlying sense of well-being and a feeling of reunion with the natural world of wind and weather, of earth and water.

Or watch the gaiety of a boys' baseball game, the peaceful chatter of old women as they sew, or the warmth of a square dance. All these and many more scenes you have known. All these and many more are recreation. Recreation—being made again, born again. Recreation—living for the moment in the happy innocence of doing for the sake of doing, playing for the sake of playing, laughing for laughter's sake, crying because it does not hurt to cry for the sake of crying. Recreation—letting the inner desires flood up unchecked. Recreation—being yourself and liking it. A hundred persons can say what recreation means and never know what it means to the next person, because its meaning lies outside the realm of ideas and words.

Recreation lies between the physical, emotional and the mental, intellectual. It is quite literally good for the soul, speaking in religious terms. It is therapy for the neurotic pressures of the subconscious, speaking in psychiatric terms. It is hygienic, speaking in medical terms. But this sense

of physical and mental well-being, the beauty of activity which rests, and of rest which is productive, go beyond the terms of a field of study. Look back on your last time of recreation. Look at the world as it appeared before you played, graying and dying as it lagged past; then look again at the world afterwards, when through freshened eyes its tempo quickened and with brighter colors danced a livelier tune. Recreation is in the person who plays and, for him, its meaning comes in a change in the meaning of other things. The meaning of his job may change as he plays a game with his fellow workers. His family may seem suddenly different after a trip to the beach. The meaning of his marriage or even of his God may change because now, once again awake, once again himself, he looks clear at the world.

But recreation does not stop with the individual. The idea of community and of willing dependence one upon the other springs up beautifully through the agency of play. You have often seen a number of individuals, separated by the barriers of shyness and hostility, change in a few minutes into a group which feels the warmth of being together in a moment of enjoyment. Communities can be built by recreation, and the larger community of the nation rests upon these smaller foundations. And so it is that the nation and the world can be developed or perverted and destroyed through the use of the inner desires which find free play in recreational activity.

In fact, it may be that in the center of reality itself lies what we call recreation. For the Christian, at least, joy is among the highest of virtues because it is godly. And down through the strands of traditional theology come thoughts of the terrible laughter of God, of the high vision of God's joy in being God. A professor of mine used to say, "God has a wonderful time just being God." No other satisfactory reason for Creation comes to mind except that it was an overflow of the joy of Ultimate Being. Joy is in the nature of things, streaming through the world with the healing of its bright movement and finding its channels wherever men turn aside from necessity to open themselves for a moment to the warm splendor of happiness.

Rev. Paul Moore, Jr. is first vice-president of NRA.

Things You Should Know . . .

◆ A SURVEY of the natural resources development possibilities of New England and New York State has been ordered by President Truman. This is to be started "as soon as possible" by a temporary interagency committee made up of the Departments of Interior, Army, Agriculture and Commerce, the Federal Security Agency and the Federal Power Commission. Letters also have been sent to the governors of the seven states to be covered, asking each to appoint a representative to act in liaison with the federal group.

◆ A DIRECTORY of field service personnel of national agencies is being assembled by the National Social Welfare Assembly, and will be ready in a couple of months. Its purpose is to let the community know what services are available locally.

◆ UNDER CLASSIFICATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES, the Supreme Court recently virtually commanded the Florida Supreme Court to reverse a ruling that a Negro could play golf on a city-owned course only one day a week. In its order, the Supreme Court directed "reconsideration in the light of" a June decision assuring two Negroes equal opportunities with whites at the Universities of Texas and Oklahoma, respectively.

◆ RENTING MUNICIPAL PROPERTY to private individuals has caused an Ohio court to hold that the Cleveland Municipal Stadium and its four parking lots are subject to property taxes since they are not "used exclusively for any public purpose."

◆ RESULTS OF A RECREATION POSITION SURVEY of Hospital Workers, conducted by the Standards Committee of the Hospital Section of the American Recreation Society, now completed, state that "apparently recreation workers in military and Veterans' Administration hospitals are working much nearer to the ideal situation than recreation personnel working under other administrations."

Recreation in National Emergency

◆ RECREATION CONSTRUCTION CONTROL, as set up on October 27, 1950, when the National Production Authority issued its Order M-4 restricting practically all types of recreation, amusement and entertainment construction—from community recreation buildings to gambling establishments, was immediately and vigorously protested by the National Recreation Association. The protest, as filed by the association, was against the assump-

tion that no distinction is being made between such things as race tracks, slot machines and night clubs and such facilities as community recreation buildings, athletic field structures and swimming pools. The association expressed a strong conviction that community recreation has a vital part to play in the defense effort, supporting its position by quoting Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman and leading authorities in the armed forces, industry and labor. The association's original protest has been followed up by further conferences with the National Production Authority and others; and every effort is being made to secure a general exception from the order for all community recreation agencies, public and private.

◆ A NATIONAL DEFENSE FUND has been organized by the National Social Welfare Assembly and Community Chests and Councils of America, in response to a generally-expressed desire that a coordinated presentation of national defense service needs be made to local communities. The National Recreation Association has been recognized as the national voluntary agency providing service and leadership to public and community-wide recreation agencies; and a budget for the special defense recreation services of the association, in 1951, has already been approved by the budget arm of the National Defense Aid Fund.

◆ THE RESOURCES AND EXPERIENCE of the National Recreation Association are being made available on recreation problems which arise in the promotion of the defense program, after several conferences with representatives of the National Security Resources Security Board. The association has prepared special material for the board, including suggested standards for recreation facilities in emergency shelter camps and in emergency housing and community facilities. It also has prepared, for the Civil Defense Office of the board, an outline of ways in which the recreation movement in the country can cooperate in civil defense, which has been approved.

IMPORTANT!

The 1951 National Recreation Congress will be held in *Boston, Massachusetts*, October 1-5, rather than in Philadelphia, as previously planned.

*"The task of tomorrow,
in recreation,
is to bring all individuals,
private groups and public
agencies concerned with
recreation together
as a team."—*

Joseph Prendergast



At display, l. to r.: Law Director Howley, Cleveland; V. A. Mason, Mayor of Pensacola, Fla.; Mayor Milewski, Spring Valley, N.Y.; Mayor Hannan, Rye, N.Y.

The 1950 Midcentury Recreation Congress

—In Review

A SPIRIT OF EXPECTANCY, of the beginning of a new era in recreation, of many good things just around the corner, marked the recent National Recreation Congress, October 2 to 6, in Cleveland. The midcentury mark had been reached and all eyes turned to the years ahead. As Joseph Prendergast, executive director of the National Recreation Association, pointed out when referring to the development and use of recreation resources in America, in his opening talk on Monday evening, "The years before 1900 were the years of awakening, of exploration and of experimentation; the years between 1900 and 1950 have been years of preparation, of philosophizing, of foundation laying; the next fifty years will be the years of building, of accomplishment, of fulfillment."

Attendance surpassed itself, running pretty close to fifteen hundred delegates, and it seemed, at

times, that the Statler Hotel headquarters must burst at the seams. Several international representatives were able to attend this year—there being seventeen from Canada, six from Germany, two from South Africa and one from India. Some of the states were distinguished by notably large attendance, being led by Ohio, of course, with one hundred fifty-two delegates, and followed by New York State with one hundred fourteen. Registration figures show that among others well-represented were Michigan with seventy-eight delegates; Pennsylvania with seventy-seven; Illinois with fifty-three; District of Columbia with forty-six; New Jersey with thirty-six; Indiana with thirty-three; West Virginia with twenty-seven; Wisconsin with twenty-six; North Carolina and Florida with twenty-five each; Maryland, Massachusetts and Missouri with twenty-four each; Vir-

ginia with twenty-three; California with twenty-one; and Alabama and Texas with twenty each. Further figures point up the interesting fact that other far-away states did very well, indeed.

Opening day saw the usual bustling about in the process of getting settled, the hearty greetings, registering, location of meeting rooms, consultation desk and room, press room, offices and so on. New, better and gayer Congress badges were the order of the day. Printed in large, easily readable type, each sported a colored ribbon designating the district from whence its wearer came. Therefore, folks had an easier time getting acquainted and finding each other.

Exhibitors were ready with their interesting and colorful recreation displays long before the crowd poured in—and it's good that they were, for the hordes of visitors who seemed to materialize out of nowhere, and to be everywhere, gave them little, if any, chance for further preparation. The over-all exhibit was the largest yet, scores of these displays filling the Pine Room and Euclid Ballroom of the hotel. The Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola booths played hosts, dispensing free bottles of refreshing drinks, and were the stopping-off place for grateful throngs. Many of the displays were particularly attractive and new this year, some showing motion pictures or colored slides. Educational exhibits were arranged by recreation departments and agencies. An excellent model airplane exhibit took up the space of two booths; other exhibits displayed a galaxy of arts and crafts, books, ping-pong tables, playground equipment, various kinds of balls and bats, woven wire tennis nets—designed to stand all weather with no maintenance, swimming pool facilities, folk dance records. Two of the foremost folk dance authorities were on hand to answer questions, as were all exhibitors. The scene was bright with merry-go-rounds, slides, picnic stoves, and so on. In addition, exhibitors arranged for broadcasts of the World Series games in the exhibit rooms.

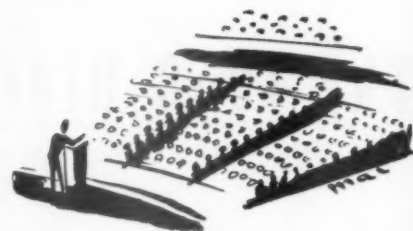
The Cleveland Local Arrangements Committee, under chairmanship of Floyd Rowe, as thoughtful hosts, established a booth in the Pine Room so that they could be ready at hand to give utmost cooperation in getting things under way and in carrying through to the end with many of the small details which make a congress click. Local volunteers not only made a real contribution to the smooth running of the meeting, but also to the entertainment of the visitors to their city.

This year, in addition to the consultation bureau display of association-printed materials, where

orders were taken, and of the scrapbooks of material on various recreation interests which are available from other organizations, the National Recreation Association also presented a new and arresting display of its community work across the United States. This consisted of a series of large maps—one of each state—showing, by means of gaily-colored pins, the distribution of those localities receiving services and publications from the association. Conveniently situated near the desk for the new associate and affiliate memberships in the association—a point of great interest—the maps were easily accessible to delegates wishing to check up on the spread of activity in their own and other states.

The press room hummed with the usual hurry of fresh news, and press representatives were made welcome at all sessions, including the banquet. All during the week, many delegates appeared on radio and television programs, thus helping effectively to spread the message of the Congress throughout the country. In this connection, the Congress was also covered by all wire services and by special correspondents from out-of-town papers.

Talks at Evening Sessions



In officially opening the Congress on Monday evening, Thomas E. Rivers, assistant executive director of the association and secretary of the Congress for many years, presented the Reverend Paul Moore, Jr., chairman of the evening and first vice-president of the National Recreation Association. It was his first Congress. Said Mr. Rivers: "In the history of the association, one of the first talks in New York on the problem of recreation was given at the home of Paul Moore's grandmother, Mrs. William H. Moore. At that time, Mrs. Moore became deeply interested in the work of the association, and this interest eventually expanded into the establishing of family support that has continued for three generations, to be exemplified in her grandson at the midcentury mark." The Reverend Paul Moore has served as a member of the board of directors of the association for four years. His excellent talk, opened by the reading of the letter of greeting from President

Truman, and his introduction of Joseph Prendergast, will long be warmly remembered. (The Reverend Paul Moore, Jr. has written the editorial for this issue of RECREATION.—Ed.)

Mr. Prendergast, the principal speaker of the evening, discarded his carefully-written speech while on the platform and gave an extemporaneous and moving talk on "The Next Fifty Years in Recreation." Delegates were aware that he approached his subject with freshness and objectivity and, that through his eyes, there is much that can be learned.

Having just returned from a full swing around the country, and from talking with hundreds of recreation leaders in a wide variety of areas, situations and agencies, he could give an over-all picture of what has been accomplished and what needs to be done in recreation. He stressed the tremendous importance of teamwork in the task before us during the next fifty years. "A nationwide program," said Joseph Prendergast, "is not a program that can be prepared or carried out by any one agency of government. It will take the best efforts of all of us doing our own special jobs to the best of our ability and cooperating wholeheartedly and unselfishly with all others in the field of recreation."

He recommended that we must continue to improve, strengthen and expand our local recreation systems, emphasizing the need for more cooperation on the local level between all public and private agencies concerned with recreation; that each state's responsibility should be to provide such recreation areas, facilities and services as will meet, with reasonable accuracy, the needs of its own people who are not the responsibility of either the political subdivision of the state or of the Federal Government and that each should continue to expand and improve these services; and that the Federal Inter-Agency Committee on Recreation should be strengthened and expanded in its capacity as a clearing house for the Federal agencies concerned with recreation and in its endeavor to clarify the proper responsibilities of the government in this field. "Under our American democratic way of life," he asserted, "all individuals, all groups and associations interested in recreation should participate in the task of carrying out the suggested program."

Toastmaster at the banquet meeting in the Grand Ballroom on Tuesday was Otto T. Mallery, chairman of the National Recreation Association Board of Directors and well-known and loved for his long service to Philadelphia recreation.



Cleveland Golden Age Choir performed beautifully under direction of Joe Cisco of recreation department.



Chatting, l. to r.: H. Lucas, Cincinnati; Mayor Hannan; J. Barnabas, India; Mrs. Hannan; R. Damiano, Rye.

Mr. Rivers took advantage of this occasion to pay tribute to eleven sponsors who have served the association for twenty-five years or more. He declared that it is because of their capacity and devotion that the association has been supported so generously through the years, and referred to Courtney Burton's presence at the speakers' table as an illustration of the youthful leadership available to the association for the future. The principal speaker of the evening, Thomas Richard Mullen, president of the Lehigh Structural Steel Company, gave an excellent talk on "How Business Can Help to Build More and Better Recreation Service," suggesting a plan to help assure recreation workers of the financial backing of industry for extended

recreation services. (See page 356 for a condensed presentation of Mr. Mullen's address.)

On Wednesday evening, the meeting was chaired by Mr. Prendergast, and "Recreation Needs in a Period of National Emergency" were presented by a panel including Lieutenant Colonel William A. Bishop, Chief, Special Services, Army Recreation Service Branch; Commander E. A. Waller, USNR, Head of Recreation Section, Welfare Division, Bureau of Naval Personnel; Colonel William Baily, Chief of Special Services, U. S. Air Force; and Charles K. Brightbill, Executive Secretary of the President's Committee on Religion and Welfare in the Armed Forces.

The responsibility of recreation directors in taking the lead in providing off-post, community recreation for servicemen and women at nearby installations was stressed, and the possibility of armed services personnel being used in program in a volunteer capacity was brought out. It was also stated that the skills of trained civilian specialists are urgently needed in setting up new on-post recreation facilities. Recreation leaders were called upon to offer their aid in coordinating existing programs and in starting new ones. With the experiences of the last war still fresh in our minds, the job should be done before any soldier has to come begging for a recreation center. The addresses of panel members were followed by questions from the floor.

The able chairman of Thursday evening's meeting, the Honorable Carl V. Weygandt, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio, skillfully and humorously led a panel of four college presidents through one of the most stimulating discussions of the Congress on "Recreation at the Midcentury." These college presidents included Dr. Paul Douglass of the American University, Washington, D. C.; Dr. David D. Henry of Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan; Dr. Frederick L. Hovde of Purdue, Lafayette, Indiana; and Dr. William E. Stevenson of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. The entire meeting was excellent, calling forth numerous spontaneous questions from the floor, and providing a fitting climax to the series of general sessions as a whole.

Discussion brought out the importance of providing recreation for the entire student body of a college, with a director added to the faculty for this purpose. One of the presidents suggested that faculties be broken down for community use within their respective areas, and warned against the abuses and exploitation of people in recreation. It was recognized that colleges should train pro-

fessional leadership for the recreation movement and, although numerous good programs are under way at the present time, more and better training is needed. In fact, one member of the panel pointed out that the colleges need guidance from professional recreation workers in the development of adequate and acceptable training programs.

Some thought that the core of the recreation curriculum should be the study of the man with whom we are dealing, and more research done on man himself. Learning takes place during all our waking hours and is not confined to the classroom; in fact, the most teachable moments occur when individuals want action. The recreation situation, of course, is fraught with such moments.

All felt strongly, too, that the doors to the creative approach to training should be thrown wide open, and emphasized the desirability for flexibility and the need for a variety of patterns in the training field. Leaders in recreation were advised to get their message before the educators of the country, and it was suggested that they be represented on the programs of the conventions of the various collegiate organizations. So enthusiastic were these college presidents that one volunteered to write two articles to start the ball rolling toward more effective relationships between the educators and the recreation movement.

Congress at Work



The "new era" feeling—to which we have referred previously—seemed, if anything, to intensify the seriousness of purpose and determination to get done as much as possible—which is traditional at the Congress. Innocent bystanders were drawn into the spirit of the thing and heard to remark "These people certainly seem devoted to what they are doing. What's it all about anyway?"

The World Series notwithstanding, therefore, daytime discussion meetings were well-attended, with interesting things popping right and left, and discussions spilling over into corridors, luncheon and dinner parties and into the late evenings. General consultants were available to delegates for help on problems in specific areas of work, and the consultants' appointment book could be said to

be one of the most popular objects at the meeting. Willard C. Sutherland, consultant on personnel problems, was so much in demand that he almost became one himself.

During the five days of the Congress, several special showings were held of "A Chance to Play," the new film produced by the March of Time for the General Electric Company with the cooperation of the National Recreation Association. Don Carter, Sales Manager, Lighting Division, General Electric Company, Lynn River Works, was the speaker on these occasions.

Recreation leadership training courses were scheduled for three afternoons and were led by the following NRA training specialists: Frank A. Staples, arts and crafts; Grace Walker, dramatics; Helen Dauncey, Anne Livingston and Mildred Scanlon, social recreation. These courses were received enthusiastically this year. Miss Walker's group participated in a final production as an outgrowth of the work done in the dramatics class, and it was suggested that, another year, her group put on such a performance for the entire Congress to illustrate what can be accomplished in a very short time.

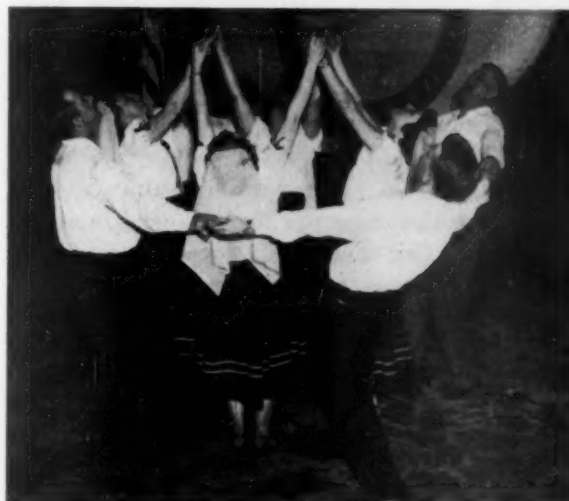
The series of thirty-four panel discussions scheduled throughout each day, beginning at nine-fifteen in the morning, dealt with such topics as: What Are County Recreation Agencies Doing to Meet the Recreation Needs of Small Towns?; Starting, Organizing and Conducting Playground Activities; Guiding Principles for Recreation Board Members; City-School Cooperation in the Operation of Recreation Centers; Recreation on College Campuses; Undergraduate Training for Recreation Leadership; Graduate Training for Recreation Leadership; What Can the Recreation Leader Do to Promote Mental Health?; Creative Program Planning for Older Age Groups; How Does the Interpretation of Recreation Help Build Financial Support?; State Recreation Services to Communities; How to Live with Television—Friend or Foe?; How Can Recreation Agencies Better Serve the Needs of Women and Girls?; Cooperative Planning of Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Facilities; and so on. (*In order to obtain a full account of these and all meetings, order your CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS NOW.—Ed.*)

Summaries of all meetings were presented every morning at eleven to a "packed house"—except on Tuesday, when the time was given over to the "mayors' " meeting. Here, again, the session was a lively one, as Harold Buttenheim, editor of the *American City*, chaired a panel of six mayors in

a discussion of "Why Recreation Is Important in My City."

The special conference on "Administrative Problems of Chief Executives of Local Recreation and Park Agencies" was held on Monday morning this year, again before the formal opening of the National Recreation Congress.

Three other special recreation conferences also



Guests were entertained by One World Dance Group made up of those interested in dances of other lands.

opened on Monday morning and continued with a series of meetings throughout the day and, in some instances, on to the second day. These were the hospital recreation meetings, jointly planned by the American Recreation Society and the National Recreation Association, and the rural recreation and industrial recreation conferences.

The American Recreation Society held its annual business meeting and luncheon as usual. (See the November issue of *RECREATION*, page 305.) Joseph Prendergast and Homer Wadsworth were the guest speakers; and awards for "long and outstanding service in the field of recreation" were presented by the society to James S. Stevens, director of the recreation board in Greenwich, Connecticut; to Mark A. McCloskey, director of community activities in New York City; and to Grant Brandon, director of recreation in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Harry H. Stoops, assistant director of the California State Recreation Commission, was elected new president of the society.

Additional special meetings, arranged throughout the week, included those on the White House Conference, youth hostels, music, tennis, junior Olympics, surfacing. Practically every district or



The Grupo Caroboa, sponsored by Cleveland Recreation Department, performed to beat of a tom-tom.

state scheduled some kind of get-together. At a special luncheon, the story of Oglebay Park was interestingly told. This year, too, army and air force recreation directors had an opportunity to meet for the first time to talk over their problems. These two groups recruited professional recreation help throughout the Congress.

From Work to Play

The first planned social event on the busy schedule occurred on Monday afternoon, when all delegates were guests of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association at tea, for the purpose of personally meeting Joseph Prendergast and Mrs. Prendergast. Over four hundred fifty people, appearing in best bib and tucker, lined up to shake their hands in the spirit of gaiety and fellowship that typifies the Congress.

Meetings made it necessary that most entertainment be confined to evening activities. On Wednesday, however, the entire afternoon was devoted to a tour of Cleveland, loaded buses leaving the Statler at two o'clock to swing through the interesting lakeside city. Also, throughout the week, delegates had a standing invitation to view the Eighth Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibit of Cleveland—held in the rotunda of the City Hall—which yearly demonstrates the work of groups of children and adults from public recreation centers, settlements and Boystowns. This project is sponsored by the Joint Recreation Board of Cleveland. (For further information about the board see page 390.)

Entertainment and fun interspersed the more serious matters at evening sessions. General singing, as always, was woven throughout these programs. In fact, there was so much demand for music that a special meeting on the subject had to be set up.

After the first session on Monday evening, a play demonstration was given under the direction of Anne Livingston, training specialist of the NRA,

with the assistance of Helen Dauncey, Mildred Scanlon, Grace Walker—also training specialists of the association—and Dr. Leonard Austin of Cleveland. As an introduction, guests were entertained by two sections of the recreation department-sponsored One World Dance Group. The Grupo Caroboa, a Negro group, interested in studying their own native dances as well as those of others from "south of the border," gave a presentation of Brazilian plantation dances to the accompaniment of a tom-tom; while the other group, made up of folk dance enthusiasts, presented, among others, German and Estonian dances. Both groups wore colorful costumes, and all dances were beautifully done and thoroughly enjoyed. Afterwards, those guests reluctant to disperse followed up the entertainment with square dancing and singing.

Tuesday evening was the occasion of the Congress banquet, which turned out to be very gala indeed, with five hundred seventy guests attending. The speakers' table was resplendent with flowers, and gaiety was the keynote of the evening from the time guests received their candy leis or flowers at the door until the end—when the last tired dancer finally took himself upstairs. No time was allowed for formality. Helen Dauncey almost immediately took over the microphone and launched a series of get-acquainted games. Winners of the first were pronounced the hosts or hostesses for their own particular tables, and the meal proceeded from there with great hilarity. Otto Mallery, the toastmaster, fell into the spirit of the occasion, and his opening remarks contributed much to the general fun.

After dining, guests were treated to music by a harmonica band directed by William Dockens, recreation director of Seville Homes in Cleveland, and to the excellent singing of a community center choir directed by John Howard Tucker, from the Cleveland Recreation Department, and accompanied by the high school band. When the speaker of the evening had finished, delegates—led by Anne Livingston—swung into a spirited rendition of their own state songs, after which the Grand Ballroom was cleared for dancing.

Entertainment on Wednesday included a singing program, presented delightfully by the Cleveland Golden Age Chorus, ably led by Joseph Cisco of the recreation department. The session was followed by square dancing and group singing.

One of the main treats of the Congress was in store for delegates on Thursday evening when the A Cappella Choir of Central High School—a

Negro choir of eighty singers—gave a too brief concert under the leadership of Josephine Walker, music director of the school. This is said to be the finest choir in the Cleveland schools.

INDUSTRIAL RECREATION



The special meetings on the problems encountered in industrial recreation or, preferably, "employee recreation," took place during Monday and Tuesday of the conference.

The spirit of serious endeavor and of getting work done in these meetings was in keeping with that of the entire Congress. Presidents, vice-presidents, directors of employee services, personnel managers, industrial recreation directors and public recreation executives participated in the seven well-attended meetings. Ray Kooi, of the Ford Motor Company, was the summarizer for these.

W. H. Edmund, of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, in speaking on "Evaluating the Employee Recreation Program," said that it is impossible to evaluate human emotion on any scientific scale, but that a program could and should be judged according to leadership, facilities, range of activities offered, cooperation, encouragement to all groups and interests.

Community industrial associations are on the increase, and public recreation executives should stand ready to help industries in organizing and promoting games and sports of all kinds between industries in any given community, according to Joseph Schlupp, director of recreation in Denver, where sixty-two plants have formed a large industrial recreation association. J. A. Strobel, Recreation Director, AFL Labor Council, Milwaukee, stated that the American Federation of Labor has always stressed the importance of unions having an immediate tie-up with the local public recreation system.

"Enlightened management takes a personal interest in the welfare of those whom it directs, and that interest manifests itself in providing for the recreation of the employee personnel," said P. Waldo Ross, Vice-President, Indianapolis Power and Light Company, Indianapolis, Indiana. "Recreation in all its forms . . . affords one of the most effective and natural ways of personal contact between management and men." Courtney Burton, Vice-President, Oglebay Norton Company, Cleveland, Ohio, spoke of the value that his company has found in providing recreation activi-

ties for men on company ships, while at sea.

"The majority of women and girls do not like competitive games, and where activities for women and girls in industry have failed, it is largely because male industrial recreation directors do not realize the importance of providing women leaders, and because of their lack of understanding of the fact that women prefer the social and cultural activities," reported Olga Madar, recreation director of the International UAW-CIO.

G. M. Matlack, of Burlington Mills, North Carolina, dealt with the broad field of industrial relations with the local community. Said he: "Industry must and should be the best citizen in town. It should *encourage* employees to become interested in community service . . . and the community as a whole should recognize what their respective industries mean to them. . . Industry and the community should share 'give and take' for a community life that will make their town an ideal place in which to work, worship, live and play."

S. J. Prezioso, of Scarsdale, New York, who spoke on the same subject, pointed up *why* we, in community recreation, are concerned with industrial recreation. "If we will but accept the premise that the responsibility of the community recreation director . . . is to provide more recreation for all the people, and is concerned with the leisure-time program of the city's various recreation agencies—affecting as it does the lives of people of all ages, types and interests—it is inevitable that the recreation department be brought into close relationship with many public and private groups."

Distinct trends in recent years, according to surveys made on industrial recreation programs, show the values of employee recreation. These, as listed by management are: improvement in morale; opportunity to become acquainted with fellow workers; closer relation between employee and management; better understanding and cooperation, resulting in better teamwork; improvement in health; reduction of fatigue and relief from boredom for workers in a monotonous job.

Space does not permit describing the good talks given by Oskar Frowein, Republic Aviation Corporation, Farmingdale, Long Island, New York; E. B. Smith, Monongahela Power Company, Fairmont, West Virginia; C. A. Emerich, Personnel Manager, American LaFrance Company, Elmira, New York; Carl Schreiber, Timken Roller Bearing Company, Canton, Ohio; Dr. Vosburgh, Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan; and the many others appearing on the program.

KNOWING what recreation means to me, and what it has meant to my children, I know how important the right kind of recreation is to the people who work in my company and in others. I have seen how much good recreation facilities and guidance mean to a community.

Knowing those things, I can say to you, with all the force and sincerity at my command, that spending money on parks and playgrounds and on recreation services for young people and older people makes sense. It makes sense to me as a citizen; it makes sense to me as a businessman.

I have been told that you might like to hear the story of our own plant activities in Allentown, Pennsylvania, which has a population of about one hundred thousand. *What* we did is an old story to you people. We built a playground. *How*

we did it may give you some ideas which may help you to build more and better playgrounds.

At one end of our plant property, across a narrow unpaved street from a row of small houses, there were about two acres of unused land. Call it a dump and you would not be far wrong. It was full of rubble, unsightly, and of no immediate benefit to anybody—company, employees or the youngsters across the street.

Then about the middle of May of this year, a thought suddenly came to me: "Let's make a playground out of that piece of property—one that everybody can enjoy." Six weeks later, on July 1, a fine modern playground was dedicated in an appropriate ceremony, thrown open to the public and turned over to the city of Allentown.

The park is neither large nor pretentious, but it is well-equipped; and it fills a need because it is an oasis of recreation in a desert of closely-packed homes and busy factories. At one end is a softball diamond, now of the sandlot variety, but we hope to have grass there soon. In the middle is a clean, well-built, well-fitted and well-kept rest house and comfort station. Nearby, in a section neatly paved with black top, are the slides, junglegyms, swings, teeters, basketball court and other devices which boys and girls so dearly love. Then beyond that is a grassy park, beautifully planted with flowers, shrubs and trees, with plenty of comfortable

benches upon which to sit and watch the youngsters play or just plain relax. Now, how did it get built?

The chief reason we were able to follow through on the original idea so quickly and efficiently was that my company, the Lehigh Structural Steel Company, had established several years previously what we call the Kift-Mullen Memorial Foundation. This is a corporation in which are placed five per cent of the annual profits of the company. These funds, by provision of the foundation's charter, are disbursed for charitable, educational and

Untapped Possibilities...

T. R. Mullen

scientific purposes. I will tell you more about the Kift-Mullen Memorial Foundation later.

Because funds were available to underwrite the basic costs of the park project, we were able to move ahead quickly. We felt strongly, however, that the community's appreciation of the playground would be in direct proportion to its own contribution of effort in building it. If the company did the whole job, the community would have less feeling of proprietorship and perhaps would take less pride in it.

The company did the basic financing, provided equipment and much of the material. A group of our enthusiastic employees gave countless hours of their own time after work, grading, building and cleaning. Other industries in Allentown, about forty in all, chipped in supplies and material—everything from bricks for the comfort station to ice cream cones for the youngsters on dedication day.

Even the neighbors and the children helped. They stored tools and equipment in their homes, and used their own trucks to carry away the debris so that the land could be graded and sodded. Little boys, who probably earlier this very day were climbing around the junglegym or playing ball, raked countless tons of rubbish into little piles for easy loading on the trucks.

This was democracy in action. The playground was built by local people with local funds. It was

accepted by the municipality and is being operated by the recreation commission representing all the people of the town. There is no town in America too poor in money or spirit to go and do likewise. You people, local leaders and leaders in the National Recreation Association, should go out and find those people, then spark them into action.

The National Recreation Association, your great service organization, has long spearheaded the recreation movement which means so much in American life. The need exists for more money, both to build new and better playgrounds throughout the country, and also to extend the services of your association—all in the interests of better recreation facilities for a greater number of people.

As I have already stated, most of the money for the Kift-Mullen Memorial Playground came out of the foundation established by the Lehigh Structural Steel Company. I believe that a practical solution to your problem will be found if each corporation in America, large or small, would establish a foundation to which it would allocate the full five per cent of its profits, before taxes, which the Federal Government allows for contributions to worthy causes. If this is done, numerous funds would be available to provide a steady and generous income to support not only the recreation agencies of the nation which are serving the public, but also a wide variety of other charitable, educational and scientific enterprises.

If this plan is generally adopted, two benefits would be realized. First, it would tend to increase the funds available for deserving causes. Second, it would reaffirm our belief in the traditional American principle of doing things ourselves.

With these two objectives in mind, I am seeking every opportunity to urge businessmen to establish these foundations. I hope that you people will see the significance and the potential in this idea as it applies to your field so that you, too, will spread the word.

You will want to know something about the kind of foundation which can be formed for such a purpose. It is a nonprofit corporation in which five per cent of net profits, before taxes, can be placed by an industrial corporation, partnership or privately-owned business. All or part of these funds can then be disbursed to selected educational, scientific or charitable institutions. Part of the foundation's funds could be invested, with the

Address given at the 1950

National Recreation Congress by

T. R. Mullen, president of the

Lehigh Structural Steel Company.

interest earned put to work for a good cause; or else, contributions could be made direct from the foundation's funds.

Imagine what it could mean to such worthy causes as recreation if every business firm in America were to adopt such a plan. Not just the big ones like Ford and General Motors, but little business, too. My company is proud to have such a foundation.

Naturally, a corporation's stockholders should be consulted before a foundation is established. But support should be forthcoming when stockholders realize that the company is not giving away all of its profits, but merely taking a very small part of the earnings, before taxes, and investing it in the future of the community and the nation.

In 1949, the net income of all corporations, before taxes, was about twenty-eight billion dollars. If five per cent of that sum had been given to foundations to help colleges, universities, hospitals, playgrounds and so on, they would have received one billion four hundred million dollars. This is equal to about one-third of the annual cost of operating all of our public schools, and it is far more than even a vote-hungry congressman would dare ask.

Not only could such foundations provide funds for colleges, but they would be a constant reservoir for all local welfare agencies to draw upon—our hospitals, homes for parentless children, parks, playgrounds and other welfare institutions.

Some college presidents who are friends of mine, and who have suggested this plan to industrialists, have told me that the people they approached said that they would give to these colleges without forming a foundation. This is true, and it would probably be true so far as raising money for recreation is concerned; but the facts are that few, if any of us, give without solicitation.

The important feature of the plan is that there is no bureaucratic cost involved. Such a foundation would make its donations to the causes which appeal to its officers. There is no need to dispense



Thomas R.
Mullen

all the funds received by the foundation in the year that they are received from the parent company. Rather, the funds can be dispensed when and how the trustees see fit. It is, of course, necessary to be careful that only organizations which the Internal Revenue Department declares tax exempt are the beneficiaries.

Foundations created by industries in a particular city, for example, would, to a considerable extent, make funds available for the benefit of local institutions. The same would be true in every other community of the nation. Think what those foundations could do for our local institutions which require financial aid. Local people would be spending their own money for the purpose that they considered worthy.

Tom Rivers has told me what a difficult job it is to raise the money for the National Recreation Association. It would be much easier for this great organization to keep up its many fine services and to extend them—if two things were to happen. First, if foundations were established by many corporations throughout the country; second, if you, yourselves, would help to interpret to these local foundations the value of the work of your national association. You can help in bringing about both of those conditions. And, if you succeed, your vital work will grow in importance.

In that connection, I should like to urge the necessity of providing for good leadership in recreation. I am sure that you recreation specialists know its importance, but perhaps the businessmen and civic officials concerned with recreation may not be so aware of the need.

The best equipped playground in the world will not of itself build character in the people who use it, any more than the bricks or mortar in college buildings can educate the students.

Equipment is important, but what counts far more is people. A recreation budget that does not provide for an adequate staff of recreation special-

ists is as inadequate for the job as a college budget without provision for hiring a faculty.

If recreation is to grow in this country, as we hope it will, more money will have to be spent for it. But it also will be necessary for recreation to provide, from its own ranks, an increasing number of people with that instantly recognizable, but quite indefinable, quality of leadership.

The man who emerges as a leader has more than just an outstanding personality. More basic than that, he will have a compelling desire to learn about the job ahead even while he is doing the job in hand.

Planned giving through business-financed foundations provides a real opportunity to promote many important works like yours. It is also an opportunity to be grasped by the leaders in recreation. If this opportunity is to be realized, however, it must be taken up and promoted vigorously—not just by the business leaders who might spearhead the foundations, but also by leaders in education, recreation, welfare and other agencies whose services and activities will be benefited. That is where you can help.

If you know businessmen in your communities who might be interested in establishing such foundations, I will be glad to supply them with copies of the charter of the Kift-Mullen Memorial Foundation, or to answer their questions.

We cannot progress individually or as a nation if we follow the old saying, "Let George do it." Our country did not become great on that basis, and it will soon deteriorate unless we all knuckle down and do for ourselves the jobs to be done.

This does not imply that taxpayers' money should not be used for recreation and similar purposes. Public financing is entirely proper under many circumstances, but we should not turn to it as the only source of funds for our welfare institutions.

In the public interest, we should work to improve and extend our recreation facilities. Leadership in that direction must come from within recreation itself. You will not be demonstrating your leadership to the full if your efforts are limited to securing larger grants of public funds for the purpose. Go beyond that limited horizon; explore thoroughly the possibility of enlisting wider support from private sources. Show them *how* they can help you; don't just ask for money. *Sell* recreation; don't beg on its behalf. The story of what recreation has done for America is a powerful one. The vision of what further can be done with support is one that cries to be realized.

If you will lead, you will find many followers!

Village Drama in England Today

ON a recent visit to England, I was much impressed with the way in which the small villages and rural districts are developing their own entertainment. Although most of the people own radios, they do not listen to them quite so assiduously as many Americans seem to do. Life is harder and they are too busy with the essentials of existence. When the cows are milked, the stock fed and the last chores done, they may sit down to listen to the news and perhaps a favorite program; or, during the winter, they may attend a social or a play put on by the local drama group.

Such groups are not new in England. They were common in Shakespeare's time, but there has been a tremendous revival of interest in village drama in the last forty years or so. To meet this growth, the British Drama League was formed. It acts in an advisory capacity, appointing tutors to go to the villages to teach the art of drama to any group interested, for a small fee. Each group that wishes to join subscribes annually to the league. So well is it supported that each county now has its own staff of advisors and tutors, all chosen by the league, who have to pass a certain standard.

Each year, usually in the spring, a drama festival is held at a focal point in the county. This may last two or three days, during which the drama groups from the villages for miles around compete. They each send two representatives to arrange the details of the rules and to choose an adjudicator from among those approved by the British Drama League. Short, one-act plays, or a single act of a long play, are performed for the festival. Most of the village will come to the session at which its own team is performing to compare it with the competitors. It is all very friendly and there are not necessarily any awards presented or orders of merit chosen. The chief function of the adjudicator

is to help each team to learn more of the art of drama.

The little Devonshire village of Sampford Spiney, where I was visiting, differs from the usual picture of an English village in several respects. It is not the closely-built group of picturesquely-thatched cottages clustered near a few shops, the inn and the church. In fact, there is not even a post office, but only a bright red postbox in an old granite wall running along the lane which serves as "Main Street." Just beyond is the lovely



Enthusiastic farm people turn to drama for recreation.

little thirteenth century church. There are no shops and not even a "pub" where the villagers may gather for an evening's chat or game of darts. The houses, all of granite, slate-roofed and lichened, are widely scattered over the hilly terrain.

Sampford is on the fringe of Dartmoor, made famous in story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Galsworthy, Eden Phillpotts and others. The moor

Author took active part in the British village drama movement while she was in England recently.

itself has retained its unconquered grandeur for centuries. The hut circles and monoliths of Stone Age man are clearly to be seen.

The present inhabitants of such little farming communities skirting the moor—descendants of the Britons driven to the west country by successive invasions—reflect their rugged character in their own. There is a serenity about these people. They are firmly conservative, unflinching, true, solid, and as completely charming as their own granite cottages, which have withstood so many years of wild moorland weather. Yet they are not lacking in a kindly sense of humor. Most are farm folk in Sampford; a few work in the granite quarries some distance away; and a few belong to the so-called gentry.

The market town of Tavistock is four miles away. For the most part, Sampford people have to walk or bicycle. Not many have cars and, even if they do, they are strictly rationed as to the amount of "petrol" they may use. On Fridays, market day, a bus comes to take them part of the way into town. Many have to walk from one to two or more miles to the starting point, and have to carry their purchases home from that point in the evening, since Sampford is so scattered.

It is no wonder then that the village drama group has become so much a part of Sampford life. There is a real need for the recreation it affords participants and the audience. Performances are given in the little schoolroom next to the church on a postage-stamp-sized stage. Only about seventy persons can be seated at one time to view the performance, and the stage can only be reached from the back of the hall. The ingenious actors, therefore, put up a curtain along one side the full length of the hall to cover their entrances and exits.

Since the group is made up of farming people, who are hard at work during the summer months, they rehearse and put on their plays during the long fall and winter evenings. One of the members often writes one-act pieces for them in their own Devon dialect. It is wonderful what they accomplish. They may have to come a couple of miles on foot or bicycle to the schoolroom all during the cold, wet nights of the winter to do it, but they certainly have fun over it.

One recent incident is typical. One member of the cast, A, was to shoot B, who, in the script, says: "Oh, my God, he's shot me!" This so shocked the members, and especially B, that they substituted "Oh, my goodness, he's shot me!" On the night of the performance A, to make matters realistic, filled his water pistol with red ink. He duly shot B, who cried: "Oh my goodness, he's

shot me!" Then, suddenly seeing the red ink, "My God, he has!"

Such drama groups usually begin with one or two enthusiasts who sound out a few friends. They may call an informal meeting of all interested persons and, after discussion of the pros and cons, appoint a committee and elect a producer, a secretary and a treasurer. In Sampford, they found it best to make as few rules as possible, since the reason for forming a village group is to give pleasure to the actors and to the audience, and to be a medium of expression for those whose life is otherwise rather colorless. They do insist that the group be open to all who wish to join, and that the group should not think of any person as being a "star." Each is a member of a team and, as such, the stronger help the weaker members. They try to consider the educational value in their choice of play, and refuse to do any which depict domestic unhappiness or drunkenness. Since they feel that no person, however poor, should be out of pocket by joining, the Sampford Spiney group sponsors socials, concerts, card parties and so forth, charging admittance to pay expenses. They fix their own lighting, scenery and props because, even if imperfect, they find it more interesting to do the work themselves.

The plays may receive quite a wide showing, as they are not dependent entirely upon the home village for an audience. The drama group is often invited to give its play in any of the neighboring villages which may or may not have groups of their own. Since most of the plays given consist of one short act, the drama groups frequently invite other groups to help them make up a full program. Such programs are usually for some cause or other, and visiting groups receive their transportation. There is always a get-together over sandwiches and tea provided by the hosts after the show, and the tired, but happy, players ride home with lots of singing. None of the actors at any time receives any remuneration; but all give and receive something that can't be measured.

Thus, throughout England, many small and isolated communities—whose members are unable to, and not in the habit of motoring for miles to attend a movie—are solving entertainment problems in their own way, and having a great deal more fun out of it, too.

"Drama opens the doors to adventure; it releases the spirit. Here one may run the round of pleasure and pain vicariously; rise to the heights of accomplishment or explore the haunts of misery. . . ."

—Nellie Burget Miller

A SERVICEMEN'S CENTER



George A. Hodgins

THE popular beach resort town of Oceanside, California, is one of the few communities in the country which was not caught with its servicemen's recreational facilities down when the various military services began enlarging their training bases as a result of the Korean situation.

To the contrary, Oceanside, located half-way between Long Beach and San Diego on the Pacific Coast, had one of the three municipally-supported service clubs in operation before the war, and was well-prepared to handle most of the recreational needs of leathernecks stationed nearby at Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, the largest marine training base in the West.

Since March of this year, the city has operated a servicemen's recreation center in its downtown community center building for the men at Pendleton and the Santa Marguerita Naval Hospital. When lack of funds forced the YMCA-USO program to be discontinued last January, the city council of Oceanside voted unanimously to keep the center open for military personnel in the area, and has actively supported all of the club's many functions, which are handled by the recreation department.

The club room has proved immensely popular as indicated by the attendance of some 40,579 men since the city took over. Facilities include pool and ping-pong tables, television and radio-phonograph sets, a free checking service, writing rooms and stationery, a shower room and a limited library. Plans are under way to expand the facilities in order to cope with the huge influx of men at Camp Pendleton.

Mr. Hodgins is director of recreation in Oceanside.

Dances are held every Friday night in the auditorium under the cosponsorship of the recreation department and the Community Chest. A hostess club has been formed of some twenty girls who plan the dances, decorate the hall and help serve refreshments. Various local women's service clubs and sororities provide chaperones and refreshments. Since the emergency, an increasingly large number of volunteers have given their time and energy to the programs.

Supervisor of the center is Mrs. Pearl Crutcher, a friendly matron who never ceases striving to make a home away from home for "her boys." Mrs. Crutcher has had three sons in the service and is well-prepared to meet most of the emergencies which arise nightly at the center. One of her biggest headaches is finding housing facilities in town for the wives and children of servicemen who are flocking to Oceanside in order to keep the family together as long as possible. The Travelers Aid, the Chamber of Commerce and the Red Cross have been swamped with requests for rooms, and the townsfolk are responding wholeheartedly.

Working with the recreation department in helping to organize the center's programs is the Servicemen's Advisory Recreation Committee, appointed by Mayor Joseph MacDonald and composed of townsfolk who were active in service work during World War II. Chairman Harold Beck, publisher of the *Oceanside Blade-Tribune*, heads the committee and acts as public relations liaison between the city and Pendleton. Other members include the chairman of the Community Chest, a chest board member, Oceanside's recreation director, the special services officer of the camp and Mrs. Crutcher.



Christmas in a Mental

FOR WEEKS during the Christmas season, our closely-knit little community of seven hundred fifty patients resounds with holiday laughter and song. Old familiar Christmas carols are heard as soon as December first arrives. Occupational therapy classes are busy making wreaths and outside decorations for all the buildings and lawns. There is much talk as to which building will be the gayest, both inside and out, with its bright-colored and original decorations. Recreation classes are busy planning decorations for the gymnasium where many parties will be held. Closed ward patients are cutting out a multitude of stars, all sizes, which will be shellacked, sprinkled with artificial snow and hung from bright-colored streamers. All patients are urged to take part in the preparation, as some task, no matter how simple, makes one a part of the group working together toward one goal. In the recreation building, Protestant and Catholic choirs, enlarged by an added group of volunteer singers, rehearse for the evening Christmas program.

Christmas week opens with a party in the infirmary for those elderly people who are unable to leave the building or to get around easily. They gather in the solarium, around the Christmas tree, to hear carols played on the victrola. A short chat with bed patients in nearby rooms, while this is going on, draws such patients into the festivities

Helen M. Choate Harris was formerly director of recreation at the Brattleboro Retreat, a mental hospital in Brattleboro, Vermont. She is at present chairman of the Hospital Recreation Committee of the Vermont Governor's Conference and a member of the Executive Committee of the Hospital Recreation Division of the American Recreation Society.

also. The recreation director then plays a portable organ, and all join in, singing the familiar carols. Patients reminisce and suggest old and favorite tunes. A Christmas quiz is climaxed by the serving of hot chocolate and Christmas cookies.

On the next afternoon, the victrola and organ are taken to a men's closed ward for a similar party. This is attended by all patients from other wards in this building who are not able to attend

any outside activities. Patients guess titles of Christmas carol records, and again forget their troubles in the joy of singing. Individual talents often are discovered as someone offers a new song or poem, remembered perhaps from some past community or family activity. Refreshments, of course, again climax the fun.

The program the next day is held in the closed wards of the women's building, where dancing to waltz and polka music adds to the gaiety. A word of cheer to those not able to take an active part, a compliment and thanks to those who helped make decorations, give each a feeling of belonging to the group.

In-between these ward activities, the recreation director, with the help of patients, assistants and occupational therapists, is turning the gymnasium into a winter wonderland in preparation for the night concert and parties to come. One patient has done two water-color panels of angels, six feet high, with a musical theme below. These are placed in wall sections on each side of the stage. Circular stained glass windows are placed in niches in the stone on each side of the huge fireplaces at each end of the room. Basketball baskets are turned into old English lanterns with amber lights, the wrought iron crane effect carrying the theme up to the balcony immediately above the backstops. The door of the balcony has been covered with a lighted window scene, and the balcony railing is covered with boughs of greens accented with snow. The other sides of the balcony are covered with green boughs, with a large red bow in the center, and the twelve windows around the hall are similarly decorated.

The center of the two-story hall is highlighted by a cluster of old-fashioned red and white paper

bells of varying sizes, with green boughs. Radiating in all directions from this to many points of the balcony are red, green and white crepe paper streamers from which hang hundreds of sparkling stars on different lengths of black thread. The effect is startling, as the stars appear to be suspended in mid-air. Four floodlights of red and green, shining from the ceiling from both sides of the room, give a soft glow to the scene. The stage

al Hospital

backdrop is a soft blue, with a few stars suspended and, in the center, stands a green tree with only silver icicles decorating its boughs. On each side of the front of the stage is a ten-foot tree, decorated with bright-colored lights and trimmings. A Christmas tree with all home-made decorations shines from beside the fireplace in the recreation and game room.

On the mantel stands a large red candle made of construction paper. From the yellow cellophane flame the smoke spells "Merry Christmas" across the large mirror above the fireplace. The smoke is covered with shellac and sprinkled with artificial snow. Many green boughs are scattered about the room with bright-shining stars of red and green above them on the wall.

Wednesday, at seven p.m., the hall is filled with all patients who are able to leave their separate buildings alone or with attendants. Song sheets are given to them as they enter, and they are made to feel that they are part of the program throughout the evening. The processional, "O, Come All Ye Faithful," sung by the audience, ushers the large choir onto the stage. Four men from a nearby community, known as "Balladiers," entertain with two groups of songs, and assist the choir in the remainder of the program. A narrator introduces each group by a bit of scripture-telling of the Christmas story. Songs about the shepherds, angels, Star in the East, wise men and manger scene are sung by choir, patient-soloists and audience. The recessional, "Joy to the World," sung by all, concludes the evening program.

On Thursday afternoon, a group of over one hundred working patients arrives for a gala party. They come from the kitchen, laundry, living room, farm, lawn groups, engineering division and many

other places. It is a pleasure to entertain them for they are appreciative and ready to take part in every activity. A carol sing, interspersed with action songs, gets them into the mood for fun. Chairs are pushed back and contestants line up to see who, when blindfolded, can pin various parts of Santa and his attire on a huge, six-foot crayon drawing on the wall. A Christmas package relay is hilarious. Those not taking part are lined up on the sides, cheering. After other races, all join in for their favorite game, musical chairs, played to lively Christmas melodies. A grand march precedes refreshments, interesting figures ending in a large circle mixer to the tune of "Jingle Bells." While this is going on, the passive participants are served orange ice, ginger-ale punch and cakes. The active group files to the colorful refreshment table to the tune of Christmas records.

Friday climaxes the week of parties, when all the active occupational and recreational therapy and parole patients arrive for a rollicking afternoon. They, too, start with a song and are entertained by a fine soloist who is a patient. The game of "categories" follows. A letter is shown by the leader as he calls a category and, amid much excitement, each side tries to be the first to name a word. Chairs are then quickly moved back and a circle formed for the "Merry Christmas Shaker Mixer," during which everyone offers a Merry Christmas and a handshake to anyone he meets. Next, two teams are chosen—twenty-one on a side—and each contestant given a cardboard letter. As the director calls a word pertaining to Christmas, each player holding a letter of that word rushes to a designated point and joins his co-partners in trying to form the word more quickly than the opposing team. Passive participants are as excited as the active group. And how important it is that all patients be included in activity in some way! Becoming a part of a group is so important in the recovery from a mental illness. Again, a grand march and mixers lead to refreshments.

Every evening of the holiday week, town carolers can be heard singing outside the buildings; but, on Friday evening, the hospital choirs combine to tour the hospital wards. Taking song sheets with them, they urge patients to join in the singing. A young patient who has just come out of a long coma hears the voices from her room farther down the hall and bursts into song, remembering every word; no need for a song sheet. She can be heard singing long after the group has left the hall. So through the evening this small community feels a bond of brotherhood and the spirit of Christmas.

DEDICATION OF A CHRISTMAS



LAST YEAR, our community YMCA in Abilene, Texas, was presented with a fifteen-foot tall living juniper tree. This was brought in by our park board planters and carefully planted on our front lawn; lights and a top star were added by other community folk. We decided thereupon to have a ceremony dedicating this tree to the community and to its youth.

The following are excerpts from what proved to be a successful and moving service:

SPOKESMAN: The story is told that, centuries ago, Martin Luther was tramping through the woods of Germany in the twilight of a winter evening. It was nearing Christmas time, and he was wondering how to bring God's goodness and the challenge of the Savior's life to the common people who lived near him.

Suddenly he saw an evening star twinkle in the gathering dusk directly above the crest of an evergreen tree just ahead of him. The beauty of the star-tipped tree stopped Martin Luther in his tracks. The snow-laden branches dipped their boughs as though at prayer. The tree seemed to lift its head to its Maker above, proud of its star-tipped crown. In the hush of the evening, Luther, now known as the founder of our Protestant Church, saw in this tree the symbol of life dedicated to the glory of God; a living testimony to the everlasting spirit of life and God's care for Man found in the birth of the Christ Child.

He not only was captured by the beauty of the scene, but also by the simplicity of the message of

the glorified tree. That Christmas season, the first tree was dedicated in his little church as an annual symbol of the dedication of Man's everyday experience to the cause of life abundant, expressed by the rebirth each year of the spirit of the Christ Child in the hearts of youth; yea, of all Mankind.

SONG: "I Think that I Shall Never See, a Poem Lovely as a Tree."

THE TREE SPEAKS: Only a short time ago, I stood with other trees growing peacefully around me. . . Now I have been chosen to stand alone; each year to lift my branches to the open sky; each night thanking God that my life shall be dedicated in this spot to the cause of youth. . .

You who enter these portals shall pass me each day, each night as you come here to play, to meet your friends, to learn of life and how to live it well. I shall dip my boughs in greeting to you. I shall softly murmur in the breezes that you may remember this occasion. . .

Do not think me puny or insignificant because I am small. Remember, I, too, am young like you. I shall grow straight and tall and sturdy for years to come. So must you. That is my challenge to you. That was the challenge—and is today—the appeal of the Master's life—to grow in stature, in wisdom and in favor with God and Man.

Together we shall glorify His name by what we do in our daily lives in this place, the center of the life of youth in our community. Let no one despise us because we are youths. We must set . . . an example of faith, of love, of behavior in our daily conduct. . .

SONG: "Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of All Nature."

The second song was followed by a prayer of

Mr. C. M. Angel is at present executive secretary for the community YMCA located in Abilene, Texas.



C. M. Angel

Another living tree, one of world's largest, in Wilmington, Del.

dedication by the Reverend Marvin Boyd, president of our ministerial alliance, who presided over the entire program. The tree thereupon burst into light and the young people into song.

Following this outdoor program, our lobby was thrown open. Around the open fireplace games and music furnished further holiday activities for

both young people and their parents. Christmas movies were shown, including winter sports, holiday cartoons and singing groups. This event took place on the night of December fifteenth, and each night, until Christmas, club groups sang around the tree, and various holiday parties were held by different youth groups in our building.

Adapting Familiar Games for Christmas

The following games, played at Christmas parties in Frankfort, Kentucky, last year, illustrate how the old stand-bys can be streamlined to fit the seasonal theme.

Down the Chimney

(Boys and girls, ten years of age and up)

Materials: Tall cardboard box wrapped with brick-designed crepe paper. Three tennis balls or cotton wrapped with string to represent snowballs.

How to Play: The group is divided into teams. Each team takes its turn pitching the balls into the chimney. (Each member pitches three balls from a distance of six to twelve feet, depending upon the age of the group.) One point is given for each successful throw. The team making the most points wins the game.

Alphabet Spelling

(Boys and girls, ten and up—adults)

Materials: Package of alphabet macaroni.

How to Play: The group is divided into teams and each team is given a handful of alphabet macaroni. The leader then tells the teams to spell out some Christmas phrase—such as "Merry Christmas," "Happy New Year." The first team to complete the phrase wins.

Note: This game may be played at any season or during any type of party, adapting the phrases to the occasion.

Steal the Cane

(Boys and girls, ten and up)

Materials: Candy canes.

How to Play: This is played just like "Steal the Bacon," but instead of using an Indian club, a stick of candy is placed midway between the two teams. The one who gets away with the "bacon" gets to keep it. However, if he is tagged, he must forfeit the candy to his opponent.

This material was submitted by Alfred Elliott, who is director of recreation for Frankfort, Kentucky.

Recreation and Parks

Walter Roy, New Institute President



Walter Roy, able recreation director of the Chicago Park District, whose election as new president of the American Institute of Park Executives met with a great ovation in September, already is demonstrating his determination to promote the inter-

ests of the institute. Among other things, he is backing the institute with his cooperation and approval for the inclusion of park data in the 1951 edition of the *RECREATION Year Book*, published by the National Recreation Association.

Mr. Roy has had extensive experience in park and recreation work, having started in South Parks many years ago, serving in turn as physical instructor, park supervisor, director of athletics and assistant director of recreation. In 1934, twenty-two park districts in the city of Chicago, including South Park, consolidated to form the Chicago Park District, and Mr. Roy functioned as assistant director of recreation until the retirement in 1948 of V. K. Brown, at which time he became director.

During the days of WPA, he was loaned to the state of Illinois to set up state-wide professional projects; while today he has been loaned to the city of Chicago to organize the metropolitan Office of Civilian Defense.

He is currently a member of the Advisory Committee of the Athletic Institute and of the Advisory Council of the American Recreation Society.

1951 RECREATION Year Book to Contain Park Data

The 1951 edition of the *RECREATION Year Book* will, for the first time, contain data on municipal and county park areas and total expenditures of park departments. Heretofore, the *Year Book*, which has been issued annually or biennially by the National Recreation Association since 1907, has included only reports of recreation programs

under leadership or of major facilities operated under supervision. Many park departments have regularly submitted reports for use in the *Year Book*, but these have covered only the parts of their total service which related to organized recreation programs and facilities, such as swimming pools, golf courses and athletic areas.

The *RECREATION Year Book* for 1951 will carry two additional types of information: (1) the number and acreage of municipal and county parks; (2) the total 1950 expenditures of park authorities. The decision to expand the scope of the current issue was reached after consultation with the American Institute of Park Executives, which approved the proposed changes.

The latest available figures on municipal and county park acreage in the United States are for the year 1940. They were published by the association after a study conducted in cooperation with the National Park Service. In order to provide information on the present status of municipal and county parks and the gains which have been made in land acquisition during the past decade, the association is asking local park and recreation authorities to submit data on their properties.

The National Recreation Association has long recognized the fact that the many services rendered by park departments are essentially recreation services. The expenditures data published in the *Year Book*, however, have been restricted to the amounts spent for organized recreation programs and services and for developing, operating and maintaining areas and facilities designed for active recreation use. But this year, park departments are asked to report their capital and current expenditures of all types. They will find it much easier to fill out the *Year Book* blank than when it was necessary to estimate the amounts spent for organized recreation service. In most respects, the information requested on the *Year Book* blank is identical with that gathered in previous years, and most departments and organizations providing community recreation will furnish the same type of data as before.

Questionnaires will be mailed about January first. Cooperation by local and county park and recreation authorities in filling out and returning them promptly will assure a comprehensive and useful *Year Book*.

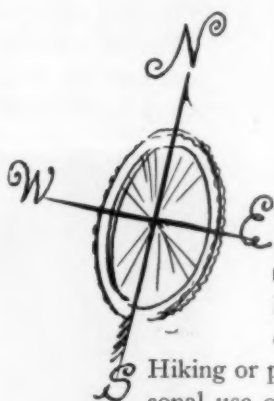
*Youth hostels offer opportunity
to all for inexpensive,
incomparable vacation fun.*



If members fall behind, markers made by leader point the way.

A Y H Means Wider Horizons

Arnold Caplan



EACH SUMMER thousands of young Americans travel through the out-of-doors in American and other lands at an average living cost of \$1.25 a day, excluding initial transportation costs, to distant places. Hiking or pedaling, by canoe or on horseback, they make personal use of one of the most rewarding and least expensive forms of recreation.

Through American Youth Hostels, they are able to enjoy low-cost travel, finding health in vigorous, outdoor living, and happiness in the adventure of making new friends and exploring far horizons. The stored value of their experience, that will serve them in their future work and everyday relationships, is immeasurable.

Last year, a total of thirty thousand "overnights" were chalked up by young American travelers at some 160 hostels provided for them by American Youth Hostels along the trails and highways of such scenic and recreational areas as the New England Coast, the White and Green Mountains, the Berkshires and the Alleghenies, the Rockies and the Great Lakes region. Others used scores of similar hostels abroad.

American hostels are situated in twenty-nine states. Made possible by the neighborly interest and hospitality of local citizens, supported by the cooperative help of the young hostellers themselves, these hostel accommodations are located in barns and farm buildings, in cabins and private homes, in churches and schools, and even in former military lodgings.

Reprinted through the courtesy of *Travel* magazine.

All hostelers subscribe to the universally-accepted hosteling code for simple living. They agree to travel by their own effort, to provide and prepare their own meals, to do their share of "clean-up" before they leave, to refrain from drinking or smoking on the premises. Observance of these simple rules is required of all members to maintain youth hostel privileges.

Each hostel provides separate sleeping quarters and washrooms for young men and young women, a common kitchen where hostelers may cook their meals and, in most cases, recreation facilities. Hostelers travel light, knowing that they will find clean beds, blankets and cooking utensils at each overnight stop.

There are no age limits nor special requirements to be a hosteler. Facilities are available to anyone who holds a membership pass, issued at low cost to individuals or groups.

In 1910, Richard Schirrmann, a young German teacher, conceived the idea of making the countryside accessible to the school children of the great industrial centers. When appointed administrator of a museum housed in a twelfth century castle, he obtained permission to open some of its unoccupied rooms to school children exploring the country.

Travelers from other lands were initiated into the simple carefree life of the youth hosteler and were eager to transplant its benefits to their own countries.

In 1932, several hosteling associations met in Amsterdam to form the International Youth Hostel Association, now called International Youth Hostel Federation. Represented in this group are twenty countries, and through the federation, associations have agreed to recognize members from all other associations for use of their facilities. They have also agreed upon a number of customs in common, including that which makes hostels available only to those who travel under their own power.

In 1932, Isabel and Monroe Smith, two American teachers and youth workers, went to Europe to make a survey of youth movements there. The hostel movement attracted them more and more, and they returned to the United States determined to introduce it to Americans.

They received permission from IYHF in 1934 to establish an American youth hosteling organization. AYH was incorporated in Massachusetts in 1934. The first hostel in the United States opened that same year in Northfield, Massachusetts, as did AYH headquarters.

During the next few years, hostels opened

throughout New England, and the idea gradually spread south and west. In the summer of 1949, there were 113 hostels located chiefly in New England, the Middle Atlantic states, around Washington, D. C., in the Middle West and on the Pacific Coast.

In the late 1930's, AYH established its first Local Council. The councils have since become the basic unit of organized hosteling in the United States. They carry on a program of trips and set up hostels in and around their own communities. There are now thirty-five AYH councils in the United States.

One of the council's most important duties is to select from among responsible townspeople the resident "house parents" for each hostel in the region it serves. Hostels are regularly inspected to assure the maintenance of high standards and are chartered annually by AYH national headquarters.

Most people are interested in hosteling. They feel it offers something new and different. Naturally, they want to know what it's like.

Picture yourself with a group of people about your own age at noon on a summer's day. Maybe you're in Denmark or in Alaska or in one of your



Appetizing meals, prepared by hostelers, taste fine after cycling. Rustic accommodations are comfortable.

own national parks. You've just finished a morning of hiking or biking, and you're hungry. Since you've been on your trip you have been alternately somewhat embarrassed and very much amused by how much you can eat. Anything, you have found, tastes delicious to hostelers, so long as there's plenty. Ever since your trip began, the days have been filled with new people and places. This morn-

ing, for instance, you may have found that French chateaux actually look like their pictures; or that Hawaii, as well as Greece, has a Mount Olympus.

After lunch you'll be heading for tonight's hostel—perhaps a farmhouse in New England or a houseboat in Sweden. Or maybe you'll be pitching your sleeping bag in a field or on a cliff by the sea. You look around at the others in your group, and at your leader. When you started, you knew only your friend from school. By now you all know each other well. It's hard to say why this group seems special, but it does, and you're very glad you're part of it.

So there you are, as you can picture it. And, of course, it needn't stop with your imagination.

Here's what some veteran hostelers have to say about their experiences:

Mary Cannon, a member of a southwest European trip of 1949, says: "Hosteling isn't the easiest way to travel, but it definitely has its advantages. We were always running into fellow countrymen who discussed their European travels with a fury bordering on apoplexy. Everywhere they went they were 'robbed' because they were 'rich Americans.'

"I would be willing to bet that no one will confuse your hostel group with the 'rich Americans.' Customs officials won't bother you, either. What self-respecting customs officials would be caught shuffling through nine dusty saddlebags?

"All in all, I think you'll find it rather pleasant being a peasant. You'll never have to worry about what to wear or how much to tip the redcap. In the resort hotels, Americans meet other Americans. In every hostel you'll meet a miniature United Nations. Your high school French will blossom like a flower in the spring time, and you'll probably start considering a diplomatic career."

Barrie Tait, of a British Isles trip, observes: "... safely protected by a big poncho or raincoat, with blue jeans rolled up, wearing sneakers, the cyclist is in the enviable position of actually enjoying the rain. Who else can say that? Furthermore, riding with the rain in your face is far more pleasant than many imagine. Try it and see. If it is pouring 'cats and dogs,' of course, any smart cyclist will seek the protective branch of a tree until the deluge subsides somewhat. In any case, rain seldom need interfere with hostel fun."

What equipment will you need?

In addition to your personal effects, you are required to have a youth hostel pass. An AYH pass is a membership card entitling you to use hostels and committing you to follow youth hostel customs when you travel as a passholder. There

are five kinds: Youth Pass, two dollars for those under twenty-one; Adult Pass, three dollars for those twenty-one or over; Youth Organization Pass, five dollars for a group of ten, including one or two adult leaders, from a bona fide youth agency or organization; Adult Organization Pass, ten dollars for a group of ten members of a bona fide adult agency or organization; Family Pass, five dollars for parents and any number of their children under twenty-one.

AYH youth and adult passes are valid for all



Time out for lunch, high point of the eventful day, is further enhanced by the presence of sun and sea.

other hostel associations belonging to the International Youth Hostel Federation. Organization and family passes are not valid outside the United States. All passholders receive the quarterly AYH *Knapsack* and the annual AYH *Handbook*.

Bicycle or your feet—depending upon the trip—will be your chief mode of getting around. When necessary, groups use trains (coach and third class) or buses to supplement long trips. AYH headquarters makes major transportation arrangements, such as ocean crossings, prior to the trips.

On the road, groups usually stay together, particularly at first. As time goes on, members may separate in the morning and afternoon, meeting for lunch and at the final destination.

Hostels may vary from the simplest kind of structure, with hay under your sleeping bag, to a beautiful building especially designed for your needs. All hostels are supervised by resident house

parents. Early to bed and early to rise are hostel customs, and each person does a share of kitchen or other work.

You and your group will buy and cook most of your own food. Your diet may be sumptuous on occasion; more often it will be simple, and will depend upon the area of your trip. But it will always be adequate.

You carry all your equipment upon your bicycle or upon your back, and are expected to have room for some group equipment, such as food.

Each hosteler needs a sheet sleeping sack and his own eating utensils. All trips, except for a designated few, call for camping out. For this, hostellers need a nylon poncho and a lightweight (six to seven pounds) sleeping bag with a water-repellent cover. Bulletins contain specific requirements for each trip. Hikers also need knapsacks to carry all their equipment and boots which will stand up under hard wear and be comfortable.

Cyclists pack equipment in bicycle saddlebags and in a handlebar bag (AYH wander bag). Bicycles must be lightweight touring models with at least one hand brake and, preferably, with gears. Luggage carriers must be steel, with tubular side supports, preferably with a rat-trap spring.

Clothing requirements vary according to trips and individual preference. All materials must be easily washable, lightweight and durable. For lightweight clothing, nylon is best; seersucker or rayon jersey is second choice. For warm clothing, choose corduroy, lightweight wool gabardine or cotton flannel. (Required and other equipment is available from some AYH Local Councils and from the AYH Supply Service, 360 Glenwood Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey.)

Each group member receives a day-by-day itinerary before starting. All groups are expected to keep advance reservations at hostels and mail stops. In areas where there are no hostels, leaders make other arrangements or groups camp out, depending upon the locality. In these areas, deviations from the planned itinerary are subject to group decision.

Average groups include eight members with a leader. Groups usually include both young men and young women, and the leader may be either. If you want to join a group with a friend, AYH will try to arrange for this. However, no more than two people who know each other before the trip may join any group.

Leaders are experienced hostellers, at least twenty-one years of age, who have taken the AYH Leadership Training Course. In a group, the leader does not act as director, but rather as "senior

partner" in a democratic and cooperative venture.

If you are to be a member of an AYH headquarters-sponsored trip, you must join the group at its starting point and stay with it throughout the trip, except in cases of emergency. You may not join a group after it has begun a trip.

Leaders will grant reasonable requests for side trips at their discretion. Hostellers under twenty-one must, however, have written permission for such trips from parents or guardian. Expenses of side trips are the individual's concern and should not be for more than three or four days.

Locally, hostellers can spend as little as \$1.00 to \$1.50 per day. Those traveling alone may spend more than those eating in groups. Hostel rates are forty cents per night for youths, fifty cents for adults, with a daytime charge of twenty-five cents for use between nine a.m. and five p.m.

Most hostellers hike ten to fifteen or bike twenty to forty miles per day. They attempt distances short enough to allow for side trips, sightseeing and meeting people on the way.

To qualify for a headquarters-sponsored trip you must be ready to spend your summer traveling simply and to take your part in a close-knit group. For trips in the United States and Canada, you must have been at least fifteen on June 1, 1950. For all other trips, you must have been at least seventeen on that date. You must be physically able—as testified by your doctor—to bicycle forty miles a day with a thirty-pound pack upon your bicycle or hike twenty miles with a twenty-five pound pack.

To apply for a trip, you must hold a current AYH pass. If you do not hold one, you may obtain it through the AYH Local Council nearest you or direct from national headquarters in Northfield, Massachusetts.

When you have completed your application, you send it to headquarters through your council. With it you send two photographs and a fifteen-dollar registration fee. As soon as your application is reviewed, you will receive word. Review and collecting of reference letters usually take about three weeks.

To be ready for a trip, you will need to begin preparation as soon as you are accepted. Your main concerns will be to assemble complete equipment, put yourself in condition for bicycling or hiking, and learn as much as you can about the places you will visit. To help you do this, national headquarters will send you bulletins on all these subjects. Bulletins will also keep you informed on your trip schedule, group members, passport and visa regulations.



Just before "lights out," youngsters swap adventures of the day and speculate on happenings of the morrow.

To qualified individuals of twenty-one years or over, AYH headquarters offers each year the chance to lead its summer-sponsored trips. Leaders' trip expenses are covered, plus a small bonus. You may, however, be one of the many hostellers who plans to travel next summer on your own or with friends. AYH can also help you.

For a general picture of international hosting, AYH can supply you with the *International Handbook*, which covers each of the twenty-four IYHF association countries. (Each handbook, fifty cents.)

For information about mapping your trip, preparing for it, equipment, reading list for areas you may visit, send to the AYH headquarters for its series of bulletins on international hosting.

For hosting in the United States, consult your nearest local council.

Youth hostellers form a world-wide fellowship. Membership in any national youth hostel organization is honored by all other international federation associations. The youth hostel pass is a passport to hostel facilities in other member countries, assuring a warm welcome to hostellers.

Member countries of the International Youth Hostel Federation today include Algeria, Australia, Austria, Flanders, Belgium; Walloon, Belgium; Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Eire, Finland, France, England and Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Holland, Italy, Luxembourg, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and the United States of America.

American Youth Hostels, since its inception in 1934, has fostered international understanding by arranging sponsored trips each year to Canada,

Europe, Latin America and North Africa. The thousands of young people who have returned from these visits constitute a growing, widely-distributed group who have shared with many others their experiences in international living. Through friendly association and travel with the youth of other countries, they have gained insight and deep-rooted friendships which are denied most travelers abroad. Greeted everywhere as citizens of this commonwealth of youth, their outlook has gained wider dimensions.

The program offered by American Youth Hostels is directed to young people in these "in-between" years. It opens new vistas to them in an unique plan that not only feeds imagination and love of adventure, but encourages initiative and responsibility.

Hosteling is not a spectator sport. What it offers is neither soft nor easy. Its simple and often rugged life demands energy, self-reliance, tolerance and a sharing of experience.

Hostelers become strong in body and in spirit. Time spent on the open road, in fraternal association with other young people in this country and abroad, helps hostellers become better adults.

New NRA Office Manager



WALDO R. HAINSWORTH, former National Recreation Association district representative for the New England area, has taken on the job of office manager at national headquarters.

Before coming to the association in 1946, Mr. Hainsworth served as superintendent of recreation in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1933, a year before graduation from Randolph Macon College, where he majored in mathematics and physics, he received his initial professional experience in the public recreation field with the House of Industry in Philadelphia. It was his responsibility, during summer afternoons, to block off one of the side streets in South Philadelphia and conduct street play for community children. In the evenings, he conducted family recreation activities.

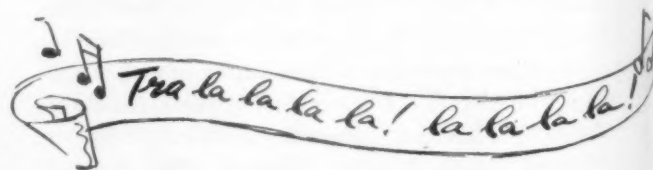
Relief work with the Norfolk Ferry Company in 1936 led to a position in the public welfare department and, a year later, to the appointment as superintendent of the Norfolk Municipal Hospital, where he organized a recreation program for the older people in the institution.



WHEN there is more than one person engaged in this fascinating preliminary—and there undoubtedly will be—try to have a **SYSTEM**! Time, you may remember, has an unpleasant habit of growing short (so does temper), and it doesn't make anyone any happier to have to waste precious minutes searching for the scissors, hammer, thumbtacks or Scotch tape. With a little advance planning, this unhappy situation can be averted.

Have you ever tried setting aside one particular spot—maybe a cardtable in the middle of the room, or at the right-hand corner of the stage—for a supply base? Place all the tools, material and equipment at this spot and let the workers, before they start, see just what is available. Remind them that each and every article is to be returned the very minute it is not in use. (Some people even place little slips of paper upon the table or stage, indicating exactly to which spot the material should be returned.) You'll be surprised how much time can be saved and confusion eliminated by such a simple procedure.

Or use spruce, pine or, if you must, crepe paper. (If you do use the last, remember to buy flame-proof paper. It will be clearly labeled, might cost a little more, but will be well worth it. Keep the paper away from light bulbs and avoid using candles. Of course, no one needs to remind you to check the wiring on your Christmas tree lights, or do they?) Try to remember that boughs and even whole trees can be sprayed with a prepared solution procured from your local fire department. In fact, the fire department might even send one of its members to do the spraying. If you don't see him do it, you'll never know it's been done because the appearance of your decorations won't be altered a bit. The only thing it does is to guarantee you boughs of holly instead of boughs of folly!



The words, as you can see, aren't important—just so long as everyone **SINGS**. Whether you're peeling potatoes, washing dishes, decking the hall or wrapping presents, just hum a little Christmas tune and you'll find that everyone within earshot will join you. Song comes so easily to people

during the holiday season—they really want to sing! Start them off! It's all they need.



So plan your gayest and best parties! Don't stick to the run-of-the-mill Christmas parties. Select the traditional aspects of them—but add a little special something. The air is filled with surprises, anticipation and excitement. Have your parties as jolly, as new and as exciting as the rest of the season.

A Wassail Hour

Have you ever gone—or asked your friends to go—a-wassailing? It's an old Christmas custom. The wassail is a hot, spicy punch. (You can find recipes for it in almost any book of Christmas cookery!) A big punch bowl of this and little plates of Christmas cookies or fruit cake are all that you need for a most successful "wassail hour."

There's a college president in northern Vermont who opens her room each year during the holiday season to the students for their "wassail hour." It's one of the big events on their calendar! The entire neighborhood shares in the excitement since the students, as they trudge gaily up the snow-covered hill, sing aloud that old Christmas carol, "Here We Come A-Wassailing!" An invitation to just plain punch and cookies could never arouse one-half the feeling that an invitation to "a wassail hour" can. Try it out on your friends this year and see for yourself!

A Make-It-Yourself Party

This same college president also delights the senior students each year by giving a "Make-It-Yourself Party."

In her over-all planning, she allocates several rooms in her home for "workshops." One large room is kept free of debris and is the place where the finished articles find their way to the foot of the small Christmas tree which serves as a centerpiece on the luncheon table.

The day of the party she sets several cardtables around the "workshop" section of the house. Upon these she places large bundles of carefully-selected material which she has been saving all through the year. She also places a sample of the article that can be made from this material as well as a complete set of directions, in case any questions should arise.

No one is told to which table he should go but, as he enters the house, he draws a card from a box near the door. This carries the name of some other guest for whom he is to make a present during the afternoon. He keeps the name secret, of course, but looks over all the tables and decides which "present" would be most welcome to his "name." Then he rolls up his sleeves, probably ties on a big apron which the thoughtful hostess has provided, and gets to work!

One table may have little acorns, pipe cleaners, scraps of leather, paint and brushes as well as two or three attractive sample boutonniere or lapel gadgets made from these materials.

Another may have small branches of spruce, little pine cones, berries, jars of tempora and rolls of bright red ribbon. The assortment of corsages which could be made here would delight any girl.

There's a table for every type—young, old, man, woman. But although these tables change each year according to the age and interests of the group to be present, there are two or three tables which remain constant year after year.

One is the wrapping table. Here are all the papers, strings, ribbons, cards, seals, stickers and writing material which anyone would ever need to wrap and label his present once it is completed. With so much material from which to choose, no two people would ever turn out identical packages.

There's much excitement around this table as each person tries, without giving away his secret, to write on his present the name he drew at the door. Just like children, all the guests want to know in advance who's giving them a present—and what it is. The wrapper has a hard time keeping his secret!

Another table to which everyone goes sooner or later is the name card table. Here each person makes a card bearing the name he drew at the door. But you should see the cards! Always different—always delightful. One year they consisted of little pocketbook mirrors. These were to be placed flat upon the table. A very small red candle—hardly larger than the traditional birthday type—was slightly melted at the bottom and mounted on a corner of the mirror. Then the person's name was painted in tempora upon the mirror. Some folks added little pieces of spruce to the base of the candle and very novel name cards appeared.

When each guest has finally completed his present, wrapped and tagged it, and has his name card ready to be placed upon the table, he goes into another room—the one that looks so calm and clean after the clutter and excitement of the workshop rooms. Here, upon a large table that has already

been set for luncheon, he places his name card and his present. The present goes under the Christmas tree which serves as a centerpiece, and the name card is set any place he chooses.

Having completed the "necessities," the guest is now free to work on table or tree decorations. He may join the group in the kitchen melting old candle ends, pouring the hot wax into star-shaped cookie molds and thereby creating novel Christmas lamps. His job may consist only of holding a little piece of string upright while the hot wax is poured around it in the mold. But when that little light gleams brightly on the luncheon table, he is just as proud of it and as pleased with himself as if he had made the whole thing.

Perhaps he joins the group that is making Christmas tree ornaments from old cracked ping-pong balls and small pine cones. With a touch of gold, silver or bright paint, these little articles make most attractive and acceptable tree ornaments—particularly for a small tree such as the one upon the luncheon table.

If he's tired of painting and puttering, he may draw up a hassock to the fireplace and help with the corn popping project that is being carried on there. Someone else may do the stringing and arranging of the corn upon the tree. (All of them, we're sure, will eat a good share.)

Sooner or later, everyone goes into the other room for lunch. The table by this time is festive, gay and well-laden. In addition to all else, the important matter of FOOD has been settled.

Dishes of stuffed olives and pickles help carry out the red and green color scheme. Tomatoes and green peppers are stuffed with turkey or chicken salad. Cranberry sauce and other red jellies add not only to the menu, but to the picture as well. Everything is delicious and delightful to the eye.

At just the right moment, old Saint Nick appears and distributes the presents from under the tree. People don their corsages, lapel gadgets and other gifts—all the while trying to guess who made these for them!

When St. Nick's task is completed, he bustles off with many hearty Christmas wishes for one and all. (Later, he may slip back in through another door—this time just as a guest at a wonderful party, joining the others as they sit around the fire singing Christmas carols.)

All good things must end—and, eventually, so must this party, too. But the memory of it, the joy of having made something, the thrill of building a party as it progressed—these will last for many a long day. When the guests look back upon it they'll realize that, except for the refreshments, the hostess spent not much money but a great deal of time and thought. The spirit of Christmas, the idea of giving a little of themselves with each gift, the knowledge that someone has made something especially for them, will glow in their hearts long after Christmas has passed. Within them there will bubble up a little song much like the ones they sang at the party!

Tra-la-la-la-la! La-la-la-la!

Christmas Tree Guideposts . . .

Neenah, Wisconsin, has a novel way of disposing of its Christmas trees each year. When Lake Winnebago freezes over during the months of late December, January and early February, the banks are dotted with ice fishermen's shelter shacks. The snow gets deep and the ice, too, and when there is a fog with low cloud formation over the lake, the fishermen have a difficult time finding their way back to their homes on shore. Last year, the police and Neenah Chamber of Commerce conceived the idea of collecting used Christmas trees soon after the holiday and placing them about twenty to thirty feet apart, upright in the snow, on both sides of the road leading far out into the middle and end of the lake area to guide fishermen to their homes each night. The results? No casualties; easy and helpful disposal of the trees. When the spring thaw comes, the trees are chopped up by breaking ice and settle at the bottom of the lake.

"The opportunity for abundant living in one's own time is a rightful expectancy in a democratic society."—Philosophy of Recreation, National Conference on Aging, July, 1950.



The Time of Their Lives

Georgene E. Bowen

MRS. A STEPPED into the club meeting room and closed the door firmly behind her. "There," she said, "I've done it."

"What happened?" her elderly friends eagerly inquired.

"Well, I just told my daughter that Wednesday night is going to be my night out. She will have to arrange from now on for someone else to sit with the children on our club night. It is going to be my time to be with my own friends."

Grandmother A, aged seventy-three, has discovered a place for herself in the stream of life, and she has found the courage to claim her right to keep it. But she isn't the only one. There are thousands of other oldsters who have made the same discovery.

None of them dreamed six years ago that their social day was dawning instead of drawing to a close. Certainly Mr. B didn't. In the south section of the city, he lived in a tiny single room in a

boardinghouse, where he was not allowed to linger in the halls nor in the parlor. When he left his room, he had to go out-of-doors. Of course, on sunny days, he sometimes found other loungers with whom to visit. When it stormed or was cold, however, he had just his own four walls to keep him company. Sometimes he could stand it no longer. "Walls, I've had enough of you!" he'd say, put on his hat and go into the street. He had to do something with his time.

Now Mr. C, on the other hand, lived in one of Philadelphia's most expensive residential hotels. He could sit in the luxurious lobby of this or any other hotel of his choice. He usually spent some time in Florida each year, but this only bored him. Although he had time to go somewhere, he had a deep feeling of not belonging anywhere. He found other older retired men with whom he could talk, but such conversations were often pointless, being mostly about food that they hadn't enjoyed in the places they'd been.

Elderly Miss D lived in the north section of the city. There was nothing at all wrong with her health or her spirits. Her time went to waste because she was now totally blind. Her radiant spirit

Miss Bowen is director of recreation for Philadelphia's older people. Her twenty-odd years of experience have included teaching, group work, administration, community organization and work with volunteers.

was so contagious, however, that neighbors often dropped in to visit, and went away refreshed. She loved to hear people laugh—the more the merrier. She specialized in dispensing cheer and humorous stories. She had much more time to use in this way—given the opportunity.

It was recognized back in 1944 that there was a great need to offer these and other older citizens of Philadelphia the opportunity to fill their leisure time with companionship and interesting activity. Forces went to work in recreational, health, welfare and religious circles, and it was decided that Philadelphia should start a recreation program for its citizens sixty-five years of age and over. The Philadelphia Recreation Association was asked to undertake this project, and the Community Chest to allocate a small amount to the budget of this Red Feather agency. The association followed through by securing the services of a specialist to promote and organize a city-wide program for older folks.

Today, in this three-county area, there are sixty-eight clubs and classes of older people with an aggregate attendance of 62,978. These groups are located in public recreation centers, settlements, church and synagogue centers, YWCA's and YMCA's, homes for the aged, a community council and a Veterans of Foreign Wars post. One all-day center has been opened for the aged, and other community areas are planning to follow suit. These neighborly gatherings are meeting a great need in their widely-diversified neighborhoods.

There are almost three thousand people like Mr. B, Mr. C. and Miss D who are now enrolled in a Golden Age group, where they are finding ways of turning the time on their hands into the time of their lives.

Mr. B now has a place to go any time he so desires. He is always the first to arrive at the center on his club meeting days and the last to leave. He arranges the chairs for his Golden Age Club and always helps serve refreshments with an air of gallant hospitality. Sometimes he mends the children's toys at the center, and enjoys watching them being used in the play rooms. He frequently joins

a game of checkers within the newly-found walls. He always finds things to do.

Mr. C had indigestion when he was first introduced, but these days it doesn't bother him. He's made some new friends at the center who haven't been to Florida. When they asked him to describe it to them he had no trouble at all. This led to bringing in an all-but-forgotten collection of shells from the Gulf beaches. How was he to know that this would lead to the club's decision to give a hobby show? Or how could he have known he'd be made the chairman of the affair?

A gale of laughter breaks out in the corner of the club room where Miss D sits. She is in the limelight now and has an appreciative audience. She has just whipped out an old battered felt hat, bent it into a silly shape and clapped it upon her head at a ridiculous angle. By now she has established her reputation as the club wit. Her aged friends expect her to have something new to spring on them each time they meet—a story, a poem or a joke. Her mind is more than occupied thinking up things. The merriment she creates is her reward.

Older men and women flock to most of the meeting places, where they find a group of their contemporaries with whom they can chat, work and play. They have found a niche into which they fit at long last. They have found a group of people who like and understand them. Finding the place and the people, they are also finding an infinite number of ways to use their leisure time.

They choose to play together—as other people do—by dancing, singing, playing games, going on picnics, giving parties, holding contests, playing or listening to instrumental music, participating in charades, bowling or billiards. They crack jokes and cut up. They also prefer creative activities such as painting, ceramics, crafts, poetry and prose composition, or speech making. They usually choose to render many services to others according to their individual capacities. They visit the sick, sew for the Red Cross and the blind, make layettes, help collect funds for charity, contribute their skill—whether it's baking a cake, mending a chair, or putting on a home talent skit for the entertainment of others. There is a seemingly unlimited variety of activities and occupations which older people enjoy because they *choose* them and, later, can participate in carrying them out. This gives them a double sense of satisfaction.

These activities and the program being promoted in Philadelphia come under the heading of "recreation," and are generally known and employed by practitioners of group work and recre-

The Philadelphia project of organizing recreation clubs for older people on a city-wide basis was launched in 1946, and its success has attracted wide attention. It is sponsored by the Philadelphia Recreation Association, under George T. Adams, the executive secretary.



DANCING. This activity figures highly in having "the time of their lives." Some have thrilling experience of learning for the first time.



ART. These two never painted; recently won distinction for work.



GROUP FUN. Individual talents within group give zest to this business of playing together.



SUMMER OUTINGS. Let young folks have their picnics! Georgene Bowen is on extreme right.



SPECIAL EVENTS. At Funny Hat Party, guests made their own chapeaux. Ingenuity abounded.

ation everywhere. Some time ago it was known that well-selected and directed recreation can build character and create healthy attitudes in the young. Now it is known that it can restore many older human beings to mental health and social usefulness. This is the most exciting discovery of recreation and leisure-time programs for older people. It turns out to be, in fact, a program of re-creation.

Another thing that has been discovered is the fact that all kinds of older people respond to the opportunity to have recreation. Because the Philadelphia Recreation Association aims at locating club centers in as many communities as possible, all kinds of people are being reached in their own neighborhoods.

When Philadelphia began this plan, there were an estimated 136,000 persons over sixty-five years of age. No buildings and no funds were set aside to operate programs for them. There were no tools and no rules to follow in the experimental stage. No program materials specifically planned for this age group were available. It was a complex undertaking, made possible by an abundance of good will.

The job in Philadelphia was undertaken at first by a few courageous churches and by a dynamic settlement director. Other agencies and organizations followed. Offering their facilities and furnishing leadership, they usually assembled a group of sponsors and volunteers. These lay and professional people deserve full credit. They are the ones, each in his own center, who gave the devoted care, content and stability to the program. They stretched their budgets, their facilities and their hearts to take in the oldsters. They are the stars of this "Philadelphia story."

In all types of smaller communities, this program has been found to work by combining the facilities, the services and the good will at hand. One club of community oldsters meets in the gracious setting of the Charles Knox Home (for the aged) in lush suburban Wynnewood on the Main Line. In Pottstown, the recreation commission furnishes the leadership and the materials; while the YWCA gives its facilities.

Just one public-spirited citizen can be the spark to ignite community interest, as in Lansdale, where a retired businessman made a personal contribution and got four of the local women's clubs to sponsor a group of 125 older townspeople.

Two religious groups can combine in a harmonious way to provide for their community's aged, as is being demonstrated in a heartening way by the York Road Section of the Council of Jewish Women and the Grace Presbyterian Church in

Jenkintown. The council provides the funds, gives voluntary assistance at meetings and hires a leader; the church gives its facilities.

There are many reasons why any community can and should provide recreation opportunities for its elderly. One reason is well-stated in the Philosophy of Recreation at the National Conference on the Aging:

"The percentage of elderly people in the population has grown and is growing steadily; the society in which they find themselves becomes more complex and the strains and stresses of life increase. The vital importance of provision of opportunity for oldsters to find gratification and purposefulness in their living becomes obvious. The most plentiful and precious commodity the aging have is TIME."

* * *

Philadelphia Recreation Association materials on recreation for the elderly which are available:

Salient Points on Organization of Clubs for Older People, \$.15; *An Ideal Job For the Volunteer*, \$.20; *Merrily We Play*—collection of fifty party games suitable for use with older people, \$.30; *A Place in the Sun*—a promotional piece, with twenty pictures, \$.80; *Philadelphia Recreational Project for Older People*, \$.15.

Suggestions for Leaders of Games*

It may not be immediately evident in a newly-assembled group of older people just what level of game they will enjoy most. Games range all the way from the fish pond and pick-up sticks to those which require cultural and intellectual resources of the players—such as chess, anagrams, bridge and guessing games on literature, history, drama and so forth.

In a comparatively illiterate group, one would not use a game which requires reading or writing. Other older persons find prolonged concentration very fatiguing, such as in a game of Chinese Checkers. It is very important to find at least *one* game that each person enjoys playing. Then let him play it to his heart's content. Later, introduce him to other games as soon as he is ready. Watch his reaction to the new game. If he appears bored and thinks it is "too easy," give the game up at once. Likewise, if it seems too difficult, it will discourage him. A healthy appetite for play is not built upon the attitudes of discouragement nor contempt. It is up to the leader to keep these attitudes from developing on the part of the players.

* From "Merrily We Play" by Georgene E. Bowen.

CONGRESS CAPSULES

How to Live with Television—Friend or Foe?

It was acknowledged that TV can be a friend—that good recreation leaders need not suffer from competition, but rather should accept the responsibility of finding ways of integrating it into program, of using it as a means of promoting participation instead of allowing it to aggravate “spectatoritis.” It was agreed that it has a great potential as a resource—part of which is in the hands of recreation leaders and part in the hands of producers. Group thinking considered it in terms of:

- a. Producing programs
- b. Using TV as a motivating factor for program.

It was decided that *demonstration* and *discrimination* are two key words for recreation people to keep in mind. In demonstration, a televised program can bring specific skills close to the eyes of the audience, show up small details. Through demonstration, use groups—for example, an arts and crafts group—can be expanded to include the entire TV audience. Other activities, such as forums, parties, clubs can be activated. In *discrimination*, recreation leaders must accept responsibility and bring influence to bear on programs given or selection of programs to watch.

How Can Recreation Agencies Realize More Fully the Recreation Possibilities of Drama?

It was emphasized in this meeting that too often community theatre groups are isolated in the recreation department; whereas they should be a clearing house, bringing together all local resources—PTA's, Junior Leagues, and so on.

A debate arose as to whether it is possible to maintain a community theatre, run and enjoyed principally by and for community participants, without having it get out of hand and turn commercial with an emphasis on “art for art's sake.” The danger seems to be that the interest of partici-

pants tends to simmer down to the training of a few experts for the purpose of turning out professionally-finished productions, rather than to emphasize the participation and enjoyment of the many in a joint community project. The latter is done successfully in England (see page 359).

All present also agreed that there is a dearth of plays suitable for community groups and that many recreation leaders are forced to write their own. It was suggested that the National Recreation Association ask for copies of such locally-written plays which have been successfully produced and, after careful screening, make them available to all. Good teen-age comedies especially are needed. This same plea for plays was registered at the National Theatre Conference.

Creative Program Planning for Older Age Groups.

Basic recommendations to leaders in this field:

1. The needs of the older person should be carefully understood.
2. The present dearth of trained leadership could be alleviated with workshops and institutes. The age of the leader of older groups is less important than his personality and skills.
3. It is time for all of us to stop and think how far are we going in the segregation of age groups. If we develop a comprehensive program for all age levels, special emphasis on any one group, whether youth or elderly, will be unnecessary.
4. Use should be made of the good printed materials now available.
5. Care should be taken not to exclude the older person from the planning of program. One cannot superimpose plans upon this age level.
6. Camping for this group is a fairly new experience. It has been tried in Cleveland (see RECREATION, March 1950, page 573), New York City, and several other communities, but it was felt that

it was really an outdoor experience rather than real camping.

7. Care should be taken not to pamper such a group too much, as members have much to contribute.

8. More thinking should be done in terms of the home-bound and institutionalized.

Standards for Sports and Athletic Programs in Community Recreation.

The first question raised—"What should be the position of local recreation departments on the conducting of competitive athletic activities for boys under twelve?"—took up the entire session.

In regard to Little League baseball, it was brought out that there are now some three hundred fifty Little Leagues, with over thirteen hundred teams participating. The recreation and athletic directors present came out pretty strongly as being against the Little League as a function of municipal recreation, stating as objections: that youngsters at the age of twelve are not psychologically nor physiologically prepared for tournament participation and the attendant emotional stress; that it is a disturbing influence on the recreation program and that baseball should be kept on a recreation level; that it is an unnecessary and lavish expenditure of funds which leads to subsidization and proselyting too early in years.

A vote of those present resulted as follows:

	In Favor	Opposed
Little League	1	31
City league organized to the recreational level	42	1
Controlled sponsors, and operated by recreation department	28	6

In considering tackle football for the same age, Fred Coombs, of Pennsylvania State College, read a report from:

1) The Office of Education criticizing it for this age level because of a) physiological factors, b) psychological factors, c) safety factors, d) economic factors;

2) The American Medical Association which said, in brief: "Play and physical education con-

tribute much to the health of children but there must be certain precautions and protective measures. . . Interschool athletic leagues should be confined to the senior high school. Interschool activities for junior high school pupils should be limited to occasional invitational meets or games. Junior high school boys should not compete in American football. Encourage play days, but no school championships."

3) The Federal Security Agency, which stated that "highly organized competitive athletic leagues are not desirable for children and youth of elementary and junior high school age (grades one to eight) . . . All athletic competition should be conducted in accordance with the needs, capabilities and interests of growing children."

Upon the reading of these, the meeting—the attendance of which had grown to over one hundred—really went to town in heated debate. It was pointed out that at one time there had been recommendations that we, in the recreation field, be guided by scientific research; but these had failed to carry weight because such recommendations had not come from recreation authorities. Therefore, it was suggested that the American Recreation Society and the National Recreation Association form a joint committee to work on this and attempt to come up with a sound policy which would be the basis for the operation of municipal recreation department programs not only in tackle football, but in baseball as well.

It was also suggested at this time that more utilization be made of carry-over value activities rather than of big muscle activities, and it was recommended that the National Recreation Association appoint a *national committee from the recreation field* to make a study of this matter and to report its findings and recommended policy to the 1951 convention. This suggestion was approved unanimously.

A vote was taken as to those who were in favor of supervised football for boys under twelve, resulting in:

	In Favor	Opposed
Twelve and under	16	34
Fourteen and under	18	18
(One vote from each city)		

For summaries of all Congress meetings, order your Congress Proceedings NOW from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York.



There's ONE at Every Convention!

YOU must have met him in Cleveland during the Midcentury National Recreation Congress. For the sake of the record, let's call him Phil Filbert, even though a recreation screwball of this type by any other name would be as wacky.

Surely you must have met him at the Statler. He's the guy who pounded you on the back just as you were gulping one of those free Pepsies or Cokes, causing you nearly to choke to death. After the lusty wallop on the back, he would start out:

"Well, well, well, if it isn't my old friend Barney Greasespot. How ya doing, old pal? Haven't seen you since New Orleans. Now, there was a town!"

While you wipe the spilled drink from your coat lapel, he keeps up an endless chit chat from which you learn that he just blew into Cleveland, a day after the opening of the congress.

"What's new around this hamlet?" he inquires in a loud voice as he steps on your pet corn and reaches across your chest for some of that free liquid. And, before you have a chance to say any-

When Mr. Bernard Ballantine is not revealing his unexpected sense of humor, he's working diligently at developing recreation in Roseville, Michigan.

thing, he bursts out, "Oh, oh, giving away miniature baseball bats, eh? Got to get one of those for the kid. 'Scuse me a minute."

As he barges over to pick up a bat, you know he's not after a souvenir. Some night club table will take an awful pounding that night, making the proprietor take a little less interest in that game we Americans fondly call the national pastime.

While Phil Filbert is after his night club tomahawk you duck away, hoping that perhaps Phil, somehow, somewhere, will get lost in the shuffle. But do you shake him off? Not for all the water in Lake Huron.

He catches up with you at one of the afternoon panels. He may not be sitting next to you but somewhere he's in the group. As the discussion leaders or other qualified speakers discuss with great wisdom some important phase of recreation, leave it to old Phil Filbert to ask for the floor so that he may tell his side of the case for one and all to hear.

"Now in Pinkburg," he starts out, "our recreation department runs playgrounds for boys and girls and we have sand bins, storytelling hours and all kinds of things like that. Our delinquency rate

has been cut in half and . . .”—blah, blah, blah! On and on he goes, never appreciating the fact that his story has been told and retold a thousand times in the past. And, of course, never taking time to realize that he's as far off the subject as an elephant would be in a Kentucky Derby.

Somehow everyone seems to maintain his decorum even though, inwardly, committing mayhem on the person of one Phil Filbert is uppermost in his thoughts.

Phil also makes his presence strongly felt on the tours, at the training courses and exhibits. "You ought to see that gym of ours in Pinkburg," he spouts off like an executive secretary in some chamber of commerce as he inspects the home community's facilities. "It would make this one look like a clothes closet. And our wading pool! Brother, you should get a load of that. Now, our sandboxes . . ."—blah, blah, blah! He's off again in the best of vocal trim.

As for dancing, well, there's never a dull moment when Phil is in the Grand Ballroom. Nor are there many untrod toes. He's the guy who goes into the waltz while giving the impression he's trying out the Minnesota shift. He dashes

around with a stalk of flowers, playing the part of a robber as gracefully as a rhinoceros doing a rhumba. Yes, he even swirls the comely Mrs. Prendergast around the ballroom as though she were his old college girl friend back at the Senior prom.

The Congress banquet, of course, would not be a banquet without Phil on hand to provide that added atmosphere. As surely as the sun rises and sets, some time during the course of the dinner he will bump into a waiter, causing hot soup to be spilled onto your friend's best suit or onto your own newly-pressed gabardine. Or he'll stretch across and haul in those last three patties of butter, just when you had your heart set on one of them. And that smoke he blows your way—well, that two-for-a-nickel perfecto Phil is drawing on would make an ideal smudge for your next lawn party in the Everglades.

Yes, good old Phil is quite a character. There's one at every convention, and you can take him. But, while taking him, please furnish him with a one-way ticket to the Fiji Islands. On second thought, please pardon me. Why wish something like Phil on the Fiji Islands!

National Conference on State Parks

TWO HUNDRED DELEGATES from twenty-three states attended the thirtieth annual National Conference on State Parks, October 5-10, this year. Texas, as host, planned a program which began at Bastrop State Park near Austin and ended at Big Bend National Park.

Frank Quinn, of the Texas State Parks Board, was elected president of the conference, succeeding Tom Morse, superintendent of State Parks in North Carolina. Other newly-elected officials include Vice-Presidents Charles DeTurk, of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission; Arthur Elmer, chief of the Parks and Recreation Division of the Michigan Department of Conservation; and board of directors members James Segrest of Alabama, Herbert Maier of California, Kenneth Coughill of Indiana, Henry Ward of Kentucky, Abner Gwinn of Missouri, and Mrs. Ruth Peeler of Washington.

Former Governor Pat Morris Neff of Texas, who has been frequently called "Father of State Parks in Texas," gave one of the principle speeches, as did Dr. George J. Albrecht, of the New York State College of Forestry. Conrad L. Wirth, of the National Park Service, presented a paper on "The Place of Parks in the Land Use

Program," and suggested that the states restudy and modernize the "Park, Parkway and Recreational Area Programs," prepared in 1937, and give more recognition to historic sites.

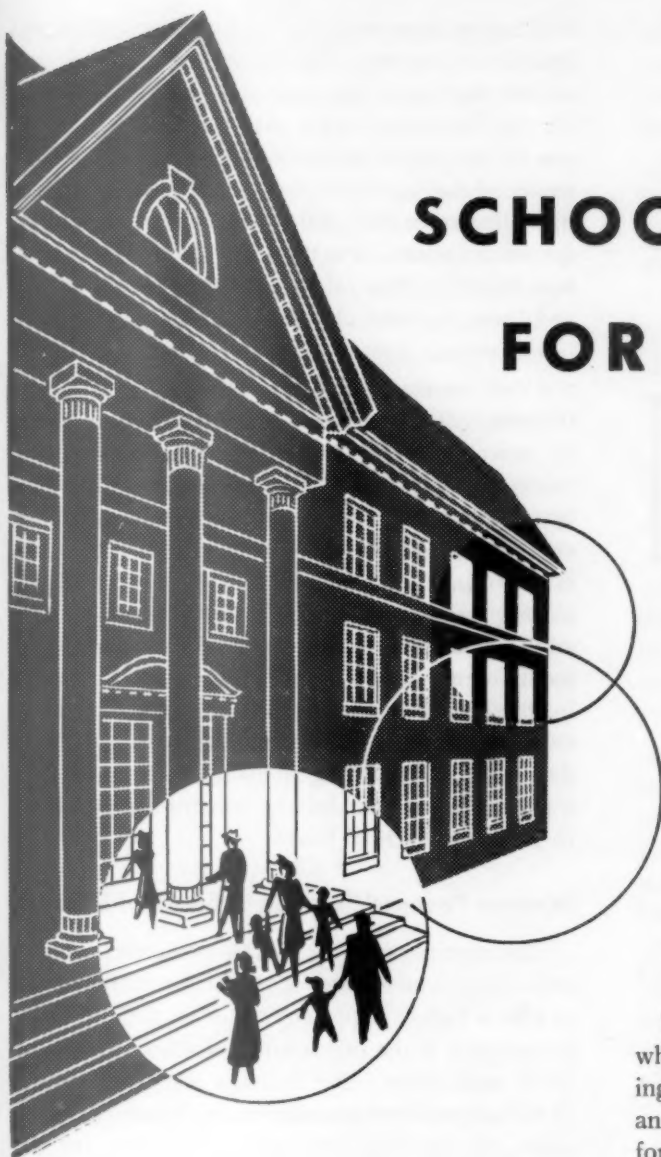
Conference reports generally seemed to emphasize the fact that the states are doing a great deal toward expanding facilities, as well as providing larger maintenance appropriations. The constantly-increasing attendance, as compared with the gradual leveling-off in the national parks, indicates that people are recognizing more and more the value of such facilities close at home.

The National Conference on State Parks plans to hold its 1951 meeting in Ohio, probably at Zaleski State Park, near Athens, the week of October ninth.

THE LEBERT H. WEIR AWARD, annually presented by the Indiana University Recreation Association to the man who best exemplifies the ideals for which Mr. Weir—long-time worker for the National Recreation Association—stood, was presented to Stewart Case, rural recreation specialist of Ft. Collins, Colorado, at the Cleveland Congress.

THE USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS FOR RECREATION

PART II

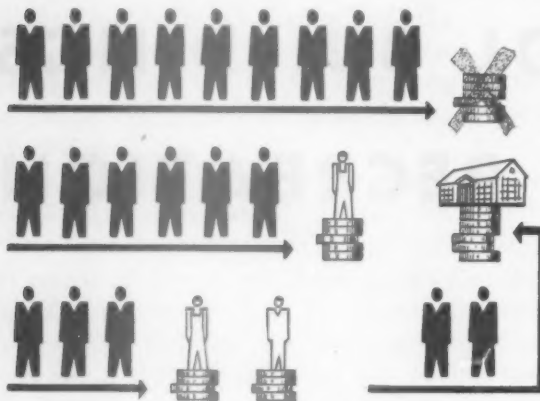


This material
was assembled and summarized
by H. CLIFTON HUTCHINS
of the planning staff, National
Recreation Association.

The attempt was made to determine the extent to which boards of education share the costs of opening school buildings for community recreation use, and the charges made to recreation departments for the use of school buildings.

Eighty-five recreation departments of the 105 studied reported receiving no board of education funds, although it is evident that the school authorities in many of these cities are contributing to the maintenance or other operating costs of the school recreation centers. In twenty of the communities the recreation department receives funds from or through the local board of education. (In each of the only two instances specified, the amount received was \$5,000.) These funds received do not, in all cases, represent appropriations by the local boards of education. In Pennsylvania, where five of the twenty cities so reporting are located, the State Department of Public Instruction reimburses local school districts for certain expenditures for recreation leadership. In the state of Washington, where two communities reported appropriations, similar reimbursement is made to school districts by state education authorities.

Nine of the twenty recreation departments receiving school funds are required to make no payments for the use of school buildings; six others pay the cost of custodians; three, of other school



personnel; and two pay rental charges. A much greater proportion of the twenty departments that receive board of education funds (35.0%) have free use of school buildings than of the eighty-five that receive no such funds (16.5%).

Among the eighty-five departments receiving no appropriations from the board of education, nineteen make no payment for the use of schools. Four of these report that their local boards of education carry substantial "recreation" items in the school budget. In Mount Vernon, New York, for example, there is a \$6,000 item for light, heat and custodial service.

The payments required of recreation departments in the 105 communities which comprise the sampling can be summarized as follows:

- 28 or 26.6% pay nothing for the use of school buildings
- 23 or 21.9% pay only for custodians employed by the schools. (Two of these pay only for "extra" custodians when needed.)
- 12 or 11.4% pay rent by the season or the period
- 14 or 13.3% pay rent plus other charges, as for the custodians
- 10 or 9.5% pay for heat and light plus other charges
- 16 or 15.3% pay other combinations of charges
- 2 or 1.9% reported conflicting data

As the preceding table indicates, more than a fourth of the recreation departments reporting pay nothing for the use of school buildings; the others either meet the cost of opening the buildings or share the expense with the school officials. The most common type of required payment is for custodial service, either separately or in combination

with other charges such as for heat and light; others are payments for noncustodial school personnel required to be employed, or in the form of rent by the season or for each use of space. Sixty-one of the 105 departments report paying for the repair of damaged property but it seems probable that all assume this obligation. Under "other required payments," five departments reported rental fees required only when admissions are charged and three reported charges only for certain facilities at certain hours.

Other means of sharing with boards of education the cost of recreation programs were reported by seventeen departments. In five instances, the recreation use of school buildings is reciprocated by school use of recreation properties; in three, the cost of the full-time recreation executive's salary is shared by the schools. Others reported are: sharing the cost of the after-school program or adult school; purchase of certain types of equipment for use by both agencies; provision of staff by the recreation department for school-operated swimming pools; sharing of profits from teen-age dances; and furnishing of liability insurance (by a private agency conducting community program) to protect the school board.

Minimum Personnel Required by Boards of Education

The requirement that certain personnel be present when schools are open for recreational use can be a highly important factor in the recreation budget and in the relationship of school and recreation authorities. The findings show that boards of education are reasonable in this respect; in most cases, the required personnel is less than the recreation department would need to provide in order to conduct its program.

Of the 104 departments responding to this question, thirty (28.8%) reported no minimum personnel required to be present; the determination of staff adequacy is wholly in the hands of the recreation authorities. Ten boards of education (9.6%) require one custodian to be present and two others require two custodians, depending upon the facilities in use. Three set the minimum requirement at one certificated teacher while one other requires a "teacher" or leader for each group. In twenty-one communities (20.2%) the requirement is one adult recreation leader only. Twenty-three (22.1%) require a custodian and a recreation leader. The remaining fourteen communities require different combinations of personnel up to "ten persons" in one instance.

In only fifteen or one-seventh of the communi-

ties reporting does the board of education establish definite qualifications for recreation personnel used in school buildings. In Pennsylvania communities receiving reimbursement from the State Department of Public Instruction, for example, the requirement is a teacher's certificate. The remaining eighty-nine communities indicated that no board of education qualifications are in effect for recreation personnel used in school buildings.

A frequency count of the personnel most often required to be present in the seventy-four communities reporting such requirements shows that one or more adult leaders are required in fifty-three instances, one or more custodians in forty-six instances and one or more teachers or other qualified school employees in seven instances. Center director, attendants, engineers, and "persons" are each specified in not more than five instances. Except for custodians, who are generally needed for building operation, a substantial number of boards of education are willing to entrust the use of school properties to recreation personnel and specify a smaller minimum number of workers than are usually required for effective recreation service.



Administrative Arrangements for Cooperation

Because the operation of school recreation centers involves cooperative relationships between school and recreation departments, an attempt was made to learn what administrative devices have been set up to facilitate such cooperation. The nature of the administrative arrangements in effect and the frequency of their use are revealed by the following table which indicates the number of cities reporting the use of the devices listed:

- 51 Membership of school board member(s) on recreation boards*
- 42 Periodic joint meetings of school and recreation administrative staff members
- 27 Regular assignment of school employees to the recreation staff
- 22 Joint meetings of school and recreation boards
- 20 Joint employment of administrative personnel by both agencies

- 10 Regular assignment of recreation employees to the school staff

9 Member of school staff on recreation board**

The preceding summary shows clearly that the most widely used methods of facilitating cooperation are membership of school board and staff personnel on the recreation board, joint board and staff meetings and joint employment or use of school and recreation workers.

It is significant that in eighty-eight, or five out of six, of the cities reporting one or more administrative arrangements are used for securing cooperation; in only seventeen was the use of no such device reported. Of the eighty-eight communities, forty-one listed only one administrative arrangement each, but the remaining forty-seven reported using on an average of three devices each. The most frequent combination was membership of school board members on the recreation board together with some other devices, such as joint staff meeting or joint employment of administrative personnel.

Of the many explanations written in, seventeen were to the effect that the employment of school personnel as leaders, although not required, is definitely helpful in keeping good relations with the board of education. Two illustrative comments follow:

"The best device is to have the superintendent of schools understand and be in accord with your program and policy. This can only be accomplished by careful supervision of programs and the school property."

"Monthly joint meetings of the superintendent of recreation, the superintendent of schools, the director of physical education and the director of buildings and grounds are held to discuss mutual interests and problems."

Appraisal of Procedures

The opinion of the recreation executives was asked as to the factors which they believe contribute most significantly to the success of their cooperation with school authorities in the use of school buildings. They were also requested to name the difficulties which threaten, or have threatened, successful cooperation and the procedures which have proved effective in facing and solving these difficulties. Because of their number, the responses have been grouped by categories, rather than quoted verbatim, and they are listed below,

* School board representation on the recreation board is compulsory in certain states.

** This item was not included on the list submitted by the association, but this arrangement was indicated on nine reports.

with the frequency of reference noted for the major items.

Factors Contributing to Cooperation

Effort by both parties to cooperate. (29)
Understanding of common objectives by both agencies. (22)
Effort to cultivate good personal relationships with all school personnel. (19)
Public desire for the community use of school buildings. (13)
Employment of school teachers on the recreation staff. (12)
Sense of joint participation in meeting a joint community responsibility.
Careful use of school facilities by recreation department.
Understanding by the two administrators of each other's problems.
Clear definition of policies.
Emphasis on qualified personnel that is acceptable to school authorities.
Giving credit where deserved in public relations.
Reputation for upholding agreements to the letter.
Extra good care of property.
Having an administrative channel for cooperation.
Joint participation in planning new facilities.
Immediate action on all complaints.
Full acceptance of school board rules and regulations.

Difficulties That Threaten Cooperation

Buildings not planned for recreational use. (50)
Poor understanding of recreation by some school people. (10)
Janitors. (10)
Inadequacy of school facilities even for their primary purpose.
Inadequacy of funds for the employment of sufficient qualified leadership.
Lack of proper care in use of buildings.
Peremptory cancellation of programs for school affairs.
Red tape in scheduling facilities.
Lack of coordination at the policy-making level.
"No smoking" rules.
Changes in the membership of policy-making boards.
Fear by school officials of being overburdened with requests.

Effective Procedures for Solving Difficulties

Use of conferences and discussions among all interested parties. (31)

Planning new schools for community use through joint action. (15)

Good public relations to secure understanding (11) with people in the neighborhood with board of education members with school people (including janitors).

Quick repair of damages and settlement of complaints.

Working directly with co-sponsoring school departments.

Precheck and postcheck of premises with janitor.
Clear working definitions of education versus recreation.

Appropriate use of each facility—avoidance of abuse.

Increases in the recreation budget.

Working through the PTA's.

Joint sponsorship of activities.

Proper leadership and complete coverage of school properties.

Use of school personnel in leadership positions.

Use of "lighted school" advisory councils.

Advance planning of all activities affecting the school program.

Reciprocal arrangements for use of properties.

Determination of need on a scientific basis.

Establishment of a clear agreement on policies.

Observation of recreation programs by school people.

"Patience! Friendliness! Diplomacy!"

The responses to the questions designed to appraise the procedures clearly indicate the outstanding importance of two or three factors. A cooperative spirit, mutual understanding of objectives and policies and good public relations obviously contribute to cooperation and the solution of difficulties. Absence of these factors, though reported in surprisingly few cities, hinders cooperation. The necessity of using buildings which were not planned for recreational use is by far the most commonly reported cause of difficulty; whereas joint participation in planning was reported by very few cities among factors contributing to cooperation, illustrating the lack of such school planning in the past. The use of conferences and discussions among all interested parties is obviously considered a most effective procedure for solving difficulties. Proper care of school property by recreation workers and adherence to school regulations are other procedures that contribute to cordial relationships. Janitors continue to be a factor in the successful operation of school centers—although the responses indicate that they do not present a major problem in most of the cities which were reporting.

Responses of School Authorities

Only five responses were received to a letter addressed to the superintendent of schools in each of the 105 communities, requesting his opinion as to (a) the factors that have contributed significantly to successful cooperation with recreation authorities in the use of school buildings; (b) the difficulties that threaten or have threatened such cooperation, and (c) the procedures that have been used in facing and solving difficulties. The replies that were related to these three factors are given here. They indicate the attitude of at least three school officials, although it is impossible to estimate the extent to which these opinions are shared by superintendents of schools in the other one hundred cities.

(a) "The use of school facilities is dependent entirely upon the individual administrator of each school. Unless he is in accord with, and enthusiastic about, the program, there is no chance of having a successful program.

(b) "1. Lack of supervision by the recreation department to protect adequately school property and facilities. 2. School administrators dislike turning keys over to recreation people who are not directly responsible to school authorities. 3. Poor program planning. 4. Inefficient playground directors who serve mainly as "cops," rather than as directors of a planned program.

(c) "1. A new director of recreation has been appointed, and he is endeavoring to solve these problems. 2. The board of education and the city recreation department have entered into a contract specifying that school personnel be hired as recreation directors for school playgrounds when available."

* * * *

(a) "The fact that three fine new auditorium-gymnasium combinations were completed in new buildings and made available for use as of September 1949 proved to be very helpful in meeting our need for indoor activity. Another factor was the elimination of charging the park department for the use of school facilities by the board of education.

(b) "One difficulty, of course, that threatens the success of cooperation in the use of these is that there is always the possibility of property damage, particularly in the new buildings. There are a few times during the year, also, when a janitor must be on hand for opening the building during

special periods when he normally would not be there, and payment must be made for this service.

(c) "Representatives of both departments have met occasionally to discuss various problems which have confronted us and we have tried to answer them on a cooperative basis. We are both trying to serve the youth of this community as broadly as possible and feel that we can do this best by mutual assistance."

* * * *

(a) "We feel that the recreation program carried on by the city's recreation officer has a definite place in the activities of all our students after school hours. We have allowed our gymnasiums, classrooms, shops, and equipment to be used with the lowest minimum charge possible to encourage the program. Many of our teachers are employed after school hours and during the summer by the program and have assisted in planning many of the projects.

(b) "The difficulties that arise from the recreation program are the misuse of equipment and building by participants. The program attracts noninterested students and out-of-school people in and around the buildings, causing damage, disturbance, and mischievous activities that would not be tolerated in a regular school program.

(c) "An attempt has been made to bring the recreation officer and building principals together for a better understanding of the problems involved. We have also encouraged more and better supervision to handle the program." (From a business manager)

In Conclusion

The schoolhouse has become widely recognized by school authorities as a building for both school and community use. Increasingly, recreation departments are being given a share in the planning of school facilities that are to be used for recreation by community groups.

In cities with a municipal recreation department, recreation centers in school buildings are commonly conducted by this department rather than by the school officials themselves. This arrangement assures maximum use of the school plant and enables the recreation department to conduct a more diversified program. The findings of this study make it clear that effective cooperation between school and recreation authorities is a powerful factor in assuring the success of a recreation center program in a school building.

FOOTLIGHTS UP!

*"It is my conviction
that the children's
theatre is one of the
very, very great
inventions of the
twentieth century."—
Mark Twain*

FOLLOWING six weeks of after-school rehearsals, the Children's Theatre of Raleigh has come to that magic moment when the curtains part! The auditorium and balcony of Wiley School are packed to the bursting point with eager, expectant boys and girls and proud papas and mamas.

The director gives the final "pep" talk to the cast before curtain time, and a near-professional group of boys and girls relive an age-old but ever new story, such as "The Sleeping Beauty" or "Rip Van Winkle."

Raleigh is proud—and justly so—of its Children's Theatre, which is now winding up its first year as a tax-supported part of the city's recreation program.

Setting theatre policy is a board of directors on which the following organizations are represented by two members each: Junior League of Raleigh, Junior Woman's Club, Girl Scouts, PTA, city schools, Raleigh Little Theatre, the recreation department and one from the city library. Various committees from these groups handle publicity, ticket sales, costuming, make-up, scenery, and so forth. All combine their efforts toward one ultimate goal—to provide finer plays for children to see and to act.

During the school months, three major productions are given, representing a carefully-planned choice of drama. These plays usually run from one and a half to one and three-quarters of an hour and three performances of each are given. Boys and girls of elementary and high school age do all the acting.

Plays presented last season were "The Sleeping Beauty," a three-act dramatization by Charlotte B. Chorpennig; "Rip Van Winkle," a three-act comedy adapted by Grace Dorcas Ruthenburg; and "The Indian Captive," a three-act historical dramatization by Miss Chorpennig. All of these plays meet the high standards set for children's

Miss Stamey directs the Children's Theatre, Raleigh.



Rip Van Winkle's sleep, depicted by Raleigh children in three-act comedy, adapted by Grace D. Ruthenburg.

plays by members of the Advisory Board of the Children's Theatre Press, Anchorage, Kentucky.

The city schools permit use of the Wiley School auditorium for all rehearsals and productions. The theatre is open to all Raleigh children, and season tickets sell for one dollar each. These are made available through the schools, and entitle a child to see all three productions and to try out for parts in the plays. Various civic groups sponsor admissions for children who cannot afford to pay. Last season, a total of four hundred children tried out for parts, ninety were cast, and approximately six thousand attended the productions. More than two thousand dollars were taken in at the box office and from the sale of season tickets. All profits go into a trust fund for a Children's Theatre building.

During the school vacation months, a summer theatre for children is conducted at Wiley School. Since the summer attendance is a shifting one, a somewhat elastic drama program is carried on. Creative dramatics, pantomimes, storytelling and story dramatizations, stunts, skits and short plays are developed. Two free public performances are given. The director chooses material during the

summer which will contribute most to the development and enjoyment of the players. The first requisite of a summer recreational drama program is that it entertain those taking part. More than one hundred fifty boys and girls registered for summer theatre during 1950.

One of the best evidences of the value of the summer theatre program is the gratifying carry-over into the schoolroom. Teachers inform us that children direct their classmates in the same playlets, dramatizations, stunts and skits which they have learned during the summer. These are given before PTA's, school assemblies, civic clubs and so on.

Although the immediate recreational values are of first importance, the increased, long-time, recreational potential that comes with real appreciation is stressed. Every production beautifully done enriches the lives of all who see it. A good play, excellently done, takes as much cooperation and teamwork to achieve as it does to acquire the skills and play a game of baseball. The theatre for children has become an effective means for providing healthy, creative recreation of the most highly-desirable type.

Public Recreation and Settlements

COOPERATION BETWEEN public recreation agencies and privately-financed and sponsored social settlements is nothing unique. It has been a practice in Cleveland and in other cities for many years. However, we feel that our three new Cleveland projects may prove the possibility of a degree of cooperation which is so highly developed that actually, though of course not legally, there has emerged on the neighborhood level not two agencies which cooperate with each other, but one agency under joint sponsorship and with the purpose of providing recreation as well as settlement services.

In the summer of 1948, three Cleveland settlement houses formed the Neighborhood Settlement Association of Cleveland as their joint and central administrative agency. At the same time, the Group Work Council of the Welfare Federation requested that the Neighborhood Settlement Association, should attempt as far and as fast as financially possible, to provide settlement services in three specified areas of the city in greatest need of such services. Our first move toward realization of that charge was to approach the coordinator of recreation of the Joint Recreation Board of the city of Cleveland and the Cleveland Board of Education. In a brief series of sessions, the first plan for a joint approach in the first area was developed.

In this area, which is interracial in character, the Board of Education has sponsored, for several years, a community center at the junior high school, providing one evening for adults and one evening for teen-agers under the direction of untrained, part-time staff. The teen-age night had become the principle meeting time of youngsters of one of the several racial groups only, and the principal received continuous complaints from parents and businessmen about the youngsters' destructive behavior. A few blocks away, one of the settlements participating in the Neighborhood Settlement As-

A report on a joint project in Cleveland, recent scene of the Midcentury National Recreation Congress.

Henry B. Ollendorff

sociation had maintained a small settlement branch with limited program and staff in inadequate and expensive rented quarters.

Under the new plan, the settlement branch was discontinued. The junior high school became the headquarters of the new joint project and the Board of Education provided a small classroom with all utilities as the office for the joint enterprise. Furniture for the office was provided by the Neighborhood Settlement Association, which also staffed it with a clerical worker. Both the Board of Education and the Neighborhood Settlement Association then agreed upon the selection of a well-experienced settlement worker as the joint director of both parts of the project. This director is paid by the Board of Education on a per-session basis, and the Neighborhood Settlement Association guarantees her full salary in conformity with its own professional personnel standards; actually, approximately three-quarters of her annual salary is paid by the Neighborhood Settlement Association, and one-quarter by the Board of Education. The board also supplies and pays the part-time staff directing the recreation program at the junior high school during the two evenings for adults and one evening for teen-agers. The Neighborhood Settlement Association supplies and pays three experienced group workers whose major assignments are the development and

Mr. Henry Ollendorff is executive director of the Neighborhood Settlement Association in Cleveland.

leadership of social clubs for children, teen-agers and adults. Most of these clubs meet at the members' homes on a rotating plan; others meet at the school, which is available for club meetings, without charge, any time when it is open for community center purposes. All clubs meet at all times under professional or supervised volunteer leadership. For any activities which take place in the junior high school, the Board of Education provides the facilities and the custodial care.

To provide recreational activities and interest groups for children, the Board of Education also provides facilities and custodial care during a total of three afternoons at two elementary schools; the Neighborhood Settlement Association provides the professional staff.

During the summer months, the director is appointed by the Joint Recreation Board as the part-time supervisor of four neighborhood school playgrounds staffed by the board.

The total membership, which is interracial and interreligious on all levels, amounts to approximately one thousand participants, two-thirds of whom are under eighteen. During the season, twenty-five social clubs and nineteen interest groups are active under the Neighborhood Settlement Association's leadership, with a monthly attendance of approximately two thousand. Nine recreational and interest groups, with a monthly attendance of approximately eight hundred, meet under Board of Education leadership.

After this first project was successfully established, similar joint programs were set up in two additional areas of the city. The arrangements are basically the same as in the first area except that, in the second area, the City Division of Recreation pays three-quarters of the salary of the director and the Neighborhood Settlement Association, one-quarter.

What does such a setup mean to the objectives and functions of the public recreation agencies and the settlements? We are convinced that it maintains and strengthens both, and increases and improves the actual services given to the community which sees only the total program and is less confused by separate sponsorships.

The public recreation program is being increased and improved through the quality of the staff. Its connection with the settlement neighborhood program adds to the good relationships of the school with its neighbors. Adults and children come to respect the school as valuable beyond being a center of learning. At the same time, the school authorities remain in ultimate control of their building through the fact that the director is

partly their employee—which is an important basis for the use of school buildings for other than school purposes.

The major settlement objectives of being an integrating force in neighborhood relations; of providing positive group experiences for the whole family; and of contributing toward the growth of individuals through such groups and intergroup experiences are not only fully maintained, but strengthened in several important ways. With the major part of the recreation program function of any settlement carried out by the public recreation staff, the settlement staff can then concentrate on other settlement functions. The close relationship with the school increases settlement value as a neighborhood relations factor, and thus strengthens its objectives.

We have heard little doubt expressed about the fact that the people of the community have most certainly profited by this pooling of resources. However, we have been asked whether staff, especially the director, can work effectively in such a setup of dual objectives and dual sponsorship. The answer rests first of all in the fact that the dual objectives are not only not mutually exclusive, but actually complimentary to each other. The answer rests further within the sphere of human relations, the willingness of all people concerned to work together for the common good, and the skill of all of them in applying, tactfully and purposely, their knowledge of human behavior to the variety of human relations involved in the functioning of such a project.

It has further been asked how far this kind of project is generally applicable. The answer depends entirely upon the specific area served, the needs of its people, and the availability of facilities. An antiquated school building might well necessitate the construction of a special settlement or public recreation building. Essential also is a conviction on the part of public officials and professional workers that better services to the people are more important than personal considerations.

There is no claim made that such arrangements as described are "perfect" or should be the pattern for all communities or agencies. Several problems need further study, including that of identification of the membership with the whole agency or its parts. Certain settlement activities cannot satisfactorily be carried on in school buildings. In a way, the whole project is still in an experimental stage, and is completing only its second year. We feel, however, that we have made progress and that before long we will have the facts with which to substantiate it.

TAKE OFF YOUR AND AND STAY AWHILE!



Mildred Scanlon

ONE OF THE MAIN objectives of a community center director should be to provide such an attractive and comfortable atmosphere that folks will want to come often and stay long.

With this purpose in mind, she sets up a cloakroom—somewhere in the front of the building and perhaps in connection with, or in sight of, the registration desk so that the person in attendance there can, to some extent, act in a supervisory capacity.

The reasons for establishing a cloakroom are so obvious! Rubbers, umbrellas, and outdoor clothing—wet or otherwise—are not only uncomfortable, but unnecessary and a nuisance. Participants themselves recognize this! In buildings where no provisions are made for checking and care, they take matters into their own hands by removing their outer garments and tossing them into any convenient corner. Since the clothes are thrown about so carelessly, they are bound to become wrinkled in the first place. And after several other participants, encumbered in their play by heavy garments, have likewise added to the pile, the wrinkles are multiplied a hundred fold!

To make a bad situation worse, the first one to arrive is usually the first one to leave. When he goes back to the corner—usually at the last minute—he has difficulty in finding his own garments. So he just dives into the pile, burrows around until he finds something that looks like his own, pulls it out, and worries not at all about the condition in which he has left everyone else's things. It's no surprise that he and all the other folks who were at the center that day go home looking like rag bags. (We wonder that the director of that center

can sleep nights when—and if—she stops to think of the lost opportunity to teach care of property and respect for the belongings of others; particularly when she contemplates the circumstance she has created for the development of personal habits of great untidiness and carelessness!)

Children are notoriously loath to remove outer wraps. Maybe it's the inertia of the human body—or the difficulty they have in getting back into them, if they are winter garments. Directors know that their suggestions to remove hats, coats and so on are often met with protests: "I can't—I'll lose it!" "I'll forget it." "I've got too many books (or bundles)."

With a cloakroom available, none of these protests will stand up. The garments won't be lost! The books can be checked, too, and if the cloakroom occupies a conspicuous spot somewhere near the entrance, the chances are that no one will forget to claim his possessions on his way out.

In some situations where the group is small, the director accepts no responsibility—simply sets out a long pole, hangs some coat hangers upon it and encourages everyone to use them. In other places where crowds are large, a more complex, but workable, system may be used. Hooks in the cloakroom are numbered, as well as the space above them for hats and packages. Each person is given a number when he checks his things and must present this number in order to claim them. Needless to say, an attendant must always be on duty in such a situation.

Almost every place makes some arrangement for caring for the wraps of its guests. You do in your home. Schools do; restaurants do; skating rinks, dance halls and gymnasiums do. So should community centers!

Won't you write and tell us how you manage it?

Mildred Scanlon is a leadership training specialist on the staff of the National Recreation Association.

HOW TO DO IT! by Frank C. Staples

The lowly button becomes the sparkling earring.



From the button box
to the jewelry tray.



All you need is a small file—

Plus —

a small tube
of



even a good
nail file will do.

household cement² & earclips from the dime store.



Now! like magic
beautiful earrings
for every occasion.

HERE'S How!

1st.—Select two identical buttons (or interesting coins)

2nd.—File off hook or
raised area on
the back

3rd.—Place cement on back

4th.—Put earclip in place.



Pet Ideas in Brief

Reported at the Pet Ideas Session—National Recreation Congress, Cleveland, 1950.

Picture Book, Jacksonville, Florida—For people waiting in the office to see someone, there are large picture books showing all the activities of the recreation department.

Broadside Announcements, Jacksonville—Secured permission of local public utility to include in outgoing bills a printed announcement on very thin paper telling exactly what facility and activities are available for the season and where they are. Made social event for group of volunteers who stuffed 57,000 envelopes before public utility enclosed their bills. Thus every person who received a light bill received also this announcement, at no cost to the department.

Coasting Street Barricades, Williamsport, Pennsylvania—Instead of using many red lanterns, which have to be put out and taken in each day, barricades are painted with fluorescent paint, making separate lights unnecessary.

Movable Standard, Newport, Kentucky—Placed pipe of right size and length vertically in center of an old pop bottle case. Filled case with cement. *Pontiac, Michigan*, used a similar scheme, with a rubber tire as the base.

Carnival of Song, Milwaukee, Wisconsin—The city of Milwaukee conducts its well-known "Music Under the Stars," where outstanding professional artists appear in concerts. Somewhat along the same lines, the "Carnival of Song" has been developed under the Milwaukee County Recreation Department. The department secures names of all outstanding music students in the area. Through a screening process, the best musicians are selected and many of these are presented in special outdoor programs in the "Carnival of Song" series, which includes dancing and related arts as well as music. This series gives young artists opportunities to appear, and provides much fine cultural recreation for large audiences. No

fees are involved. So far this is a summer activity but could be extended to winter.

Dog Events, Pooch Party, Pontiac—This recognizes both pet and owner. For example, awards for the best-informed owner; awards for the best-groomed dog. *Dog Obedience Class, Jacksonville*—Special diploma to trainers.

Playground History, Hamilton, Ohio—Each director writes history of playground for the year. These are filed and used by directors in later years.

Balloon Derby, St. Joseph, Missouri—Card with child's name and address is attached to each balloon. Competition and awards are based on distance traveled. Finder of balloon and card returns card to department.

Rifle Range, Bristol, New Hampshire—To construct a needed indoor rifle range, it was necessary to do some excavating. Instead of hiring it done, a "Ten-Bucket-a-Week Club" was formed. Members of this club received privileges of rifle range but, in return, pledged themselves to carry ten buckets of sand out of the excavation each week until the work was completed.

Ski School, Syracuse, New York—Syracuse operates a free city ski school. (See November 1950 RECREATION.)

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"Without a Song"

Beulah Barnum

A LINE FROM AN old popular song, "Without a song, the world would be all wrong," expresses very well how great is the need for music in people's lives. The singing and playing of good music is a rich emotional experience. No other activity has the power of music in the expressing of feelings and in making for group spirit. There is a place for it in community recreation!

One of the great advantages of singing is that it requires no special planning or equipment. The major essentials are time and the right spirit.

One of the simplest forms of music is group singing, informal, and just for the fun of it. Singing around a piano or before a blazing fireplace; joining in on fun songs at the table, at parties and assemblies, on bus rides and hikes or around the campfire; singing quiet melodies before "lights out"—these are just a few of the times for informal group singing. Too many people do not sing because, *in their opinion*, they do not sing well. How impoverished the race would be if mothers had not sung their lullabies, or men and women their folk songs because they did not have trained voices. So everyone should learn the tune, sing it pleasantly, simply and naturally, but with spirit, and then interest in music cannot help but "catch on."

In some cases, trained leadership is necessary; although one who understands how to get people to sing correctly, and yet retain fun and fellowship, is a real asset. The group wants to sing instead of being educated or entertained by the leader. Community singing that is well-planned over

a period should develop into a community chorus.

Song fests, in which various groups participate, may be handled in the following ways:

1. Select three songs before the fest. Have each group sing these songs and have judges decide upon the winner.
2. Allow each group the choice of presenting three songs of their own selection and judge them on this selection as well as on performance.
3. Combine the above methods.

As a feature of the song fest, all groups may sing a few selections together.

Community choirs and glee clubs may be formed for those who want to sing regularly. Bands and orchestras have a place in the music program—when finances warrant. Rhythm bands are popular with smaller children, and the new melody bands, which are between the rhythm and regular bands, are found in many communities. Children in melody bands play miniature instruments having true tone quality, and they may form pre-band groups or combine with other band or orchestra groups.

Kitchen bands are fun for musical stunts and are concocted entirely from materials at hand. Satisfactory homemade instruments can furnish really enjoyable music, and the activity provides a fine creative experience, both in making something with the hands and in making music with the finished instruments. Shepherd pipes and drums are among the easiest to make.

Music appreciation can be fostered through listening to music, participating in music memory contests and making scrapbooks. The legends upon which some of the musical masterpieces are based, the stories behind holiday and folk songs and the lives of composers make fascinating telling, and are of infinite value in teaching the appreciation

Mrs. Beulah Barnum is, at present, the assistant superintendent of recreation for Jackson, Michigan.

of music. (*Storytelling groups take note.*—Ed.) Some high quality musical programs on the radio can also provide an opportunity for developing this appreciation.

The recreation department may be helpful by: (1) conducting recreation music activities for children; supplementing music instruction in the schools and integrating it with life outside of the school; (2) organizing and furnishing leadership for groups of young people and adults, thus making it possible for them to participate in various forms of music activity; (3) affording opportunities for people to listen to and enjoy music provided by others; (4) cooperating with other community agencies in organizing and conducting community-wide activities, such as festivals and carol-

ing projects, and coordinating or bringing existing music groups together; (5) serving individuals and community groups, through training institutes, certain kinds of music instruction, and providing music leaders; (6) providing community music groups with auditoriums, concert halls and club-rooms to be used for concerts, rehearsals, meetings and other activities (if the department has these facilities available).

In brief, the recreation department should be helping people to find opportunities to make and enjoy good music. It should be cooperating with all agencies working toward this end and promoting music activities on all fronts, often coordinating music with other activities in its program.

Recreation News

New Education-Recreation Division

The Education-Recreation Council and the Youth Division of the National Social Welfare Assembly have been consolidated to form the Education-Recreation Division of the assembly.

All present national agencies are eligible, and the division will consist of one lay and one professional staff member from each of the member agencies. Also, a citizens' group at large, not to exceed one-third of the agencies' representatives, will help to make up this new division. This action is a result of a study conducted by a joint committee of the Youth Division and the Education-Recreation Council. Its recommendations were accepted by the executive committee of the assembly, and immediate action was taken. The officers of the new division are expected to take over some time during January, 1951.

Play Space in New Neighborhoods

The *Newark News*, Newark, New Jersey, and the National Recreation Association cooperated in presenting a two-session forum on November sixteenth in the *News'* auditorium—on "Play Space in New Neighborhoods."

The present nationwide interest in housing is unprecedented. Present building practice offers a hope that open lawn areas will be provided in new housing projects. Yet there has been slim evidence, to date, that the new neighborhoods being created are to have adequate open space suitable for, and permanently dedicated to, permanent use. (See Prendergast *Newsletter*, September 25, 1950.)

Extracurricular Activities

Though busy with the expansion program of the National Recreation Association, Joseph Prendergast has found time recently to attend the Georgia Recreation Society Conference on October 18, where he served as principle speaker; to attend the Eighth Annual Governor's Recreation Conference in Vermont, on October 23, where he gave the main address at the conference banquet; and to attend the Midcentury Recreation Conference of the North and South Carolina Recreation Societies, November 8 and 9, where he also gave several talks. In addition, an article has been prepared by him on "Recreation and Labor," to appear in a future issue of *The American Federationist*, and one on "The Educational Aspects of the Recreation Program" to appear in *Public Health Nursing*.

Book Adopted by Colleges

One hundred sixty-seven colleges and universities have adopted George Butler's *Introduction to Community Recreation*, according to a report from McGraw-Hill—the book company which published it for the National Recreation Association. It is now in its second printing.

Leisure-Time Focus

The American Psychiatric Association, through its Committee on Leisure Time, is focusing attention upon the leisure-time life of children and adolescents during after-school hours, and specifically upon the training of group agency personnel and others outside the home whom children regularly meet.

"The elderly person with a hobby is almost always an alert, interesting person."—Dr. William C. Menninger

HOBBIES

AN ENTOMOLOGIST—*after Seventy Years*

W. Harvey-Jellie, D. Lit.

FOR MORE THAN seventy years I have been an ardent entomologist, and I am convinced that an insight into the world of the butterfly and the moth may be an inspiration and a relaxation of infinite value for the tired student or the harassed merchant. Without it life would be narrower and harder, missing that touch with nature which is the saving line of escape from the overwhelming secularism of our age. It became for me a life-long passion.

My initiation into the ranks of entomologists occurred in my early teens. It was in the city of Bristol, where a score or more of grammar school boys were always talking about the latest additions to their "collections." Very soon I joined them in scouring the Clifton Downs and climbing the steep sides of the gully by the Avon in search of the swift-winged Greyings, Heaths and Skippers, net in hand and eyes open for every butterfly new to our limited list. It was not long before I became familiar with the entire sixty-seven species of English butterflies through my Coleman's "Butterflies," with rare visits to the store of Mr. Mann, the naturalist.

But I suppose it was our removal to Canterbury that really made me an enthusiast, with the long rambles through the thick oak woods to Whitstable and trips to the chalk cliffs of Dover. Another change, and the life at a large boys' college in Southampton gave the opportunity to range the glades of the New Forest at Brokenhurst, finding the White Admiral and the Wood White. Fortunately our headmaster, Colonel Lees, was a patron of nature study who did much to stimulate my zeal for my hobby when he presented a prize for my poor little story of butterfly life as the first essay of a fourth form boy to appear in the college magazine. With his kindly encouragement, we would use our boat-pass to the Isle of Wight and roam the lanes, finding many a treasured specimen. Even more instructive was the insight which our old schoolmaster gave us into plant life, where eggs were laid and caterpillars reared with the

mysterious instinct which led each species to select the one and only herb upon which its grub would feed.

What a thrill of excitement was added to later days during many a trip to the European continent! To find *Daplidicae* on the Venetian Lido, before it was subjected to the desecration of tourism; to tramp over the Simplon Pass in Switzerland and net the swift-winged *Apollo*; and to go to the heights of the Pyrenees to capture rare species which haunt the majestic *Cirque de Gavarnie*! Never traveling without net, bottle and box, I have wandered afar, finding an escape from arduous academic studies on the heath by day, or by "sugaring" for the moth in the warmth of summer nights.

Somehow, devotion to entomology seems to involve one in a kind of "wanderlust." Thus I have been intrigued by the gaudy butterflies of North Carolina, by those of the Pacific Coast and of the Rockies. Often I have found additional fascination in perusing Kirby's masterpiece on butterflies and moths, or in pondering over specimens brought back from distant Singapore by a British colonel who would hire Chinese coolies to net specimens new to science from the top of forest trees.

Looking back after all these years, with the haunting memories of these hours of relaxation, a great pity lays hold of me for the city boy and the office slave who merely turn a listening ear to the loud call of the radio; who devote their spare hours to the fascination of Hollywood. To them the butterfly is merely a "bug" for the reckless youngster to fling his cap at or to capture that he may torture it by plucking out its wings. Yet, thousands in our public schools might be taught or initiated into some branch of nature study which would be an inspiration for them during the years of responsibility which lie ahead.

At the end of the years, I find myself, even in cold Quebec, still enjoying my life-long interest, comforted by memories of beautiful forest, glen and mountainside.

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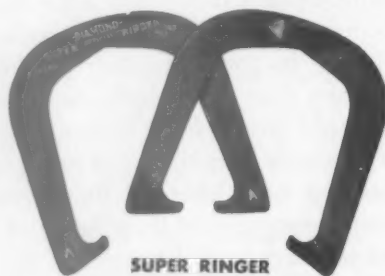
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2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.)

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5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

R. J. SCHWARTZ,
Business Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of November, 1950.

MIRIAM S. C. DOCHTERMANN,
Notary Public, State of New York No. 30-6043400

Qualified in Nassau County. Certificate filed with New York County Clerk and Register. My commission expires March 30, 1952.

Recreation

Suggestion Box

A Santa Claus Parade

A small Canadian town of four thousand—Arnprior—has staged a parade featuring Santa for the last three years—so why can't you? It is sponsored by the local Lions Club, publicized by the local newspaper, *The Arnprior Chronicle*, and wholeheartedly endorsed by the citizens. The Lions Club arranges for a citizens' band to lead the parade; and committees get together with industries and merchants regarding floats. Prizes are offered for the best ones. Practical results can be seen later, in the stores.

If your community plans such a parade in the future, the following advice is offered by the Lions committee: 1. As a great deal of thought and work go into the planning and decoration of these floats, they should be kept on the streets as long as possible. 2. Routing of the parade should be so arranged that the kiddies, eager as they are, will not have to stand out in the cold for too long a time.

From Santa's Headquarters

In Decatur, Illinois, last year, the recreation department sent one of the following letters to each child who had written to Santa at the Christmas Village in Central Park. Over one thousand letters had been received.

SANTA CLAUS HEADQUARTERS

"Dear _____

"Thank you for writing me such a nice letter, and 'Mother Goose' liked it, too.

"We hope that you will come visit us soon so that we can talk more about what you want for Christmas.

"Lots of fun and excitement at my 'house' this year and I'll be looking for you.

"Santa Claus"

Objectives of Santa Claus School

The Recreation and Promotion Service, Incorporated, of Wilmington, Delaware, lists as the objectives of its Santa Claus School:

1. To teach people desiring to be Santa Clauses the proper techniques.
2. To develop more natural and realistic Santas.

3. To give people background information concerning the history of Christmas.

4. To provide an opportunity for those who have played Santa Claus to exchange and discuss ideas on how to be better Santa Clauses.

The school offers information and training on the background of Santa—the legend; his appearance; costume—and how it should be worn; make-up; necessary "props" for the part; plans for Santa's visit; and suggestions for community Santa Claus projects. A leaflet is published, describing the course in further detail. Write to George Sargisson, Recreation and Promotion Service, 101 West Fourteenth Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

This Matter of Awards

The Milwaukee Recreation Department is making an effort to get away from the practice of giving "awards." At the end of a season of team play, it, instead, presents each member with an eight-by-ten photograph of the team. To those local organizations and businesses which want to present awards, in their own name, the department says: "If you have money that you want to spend on youngsters, give them a *feed*—something that everyone can enjoy."

Floor Protection

To protect the hardwood floor in the St. Joseph, Missouri, auditorium for its primary use—basketball games—the manager has it covered with four-by-twelve-foot panels of Masonite quarter-inch tempered hardboard whenever there are such special events as boxing, wrestling and trade expositions. The dense, exceptionally tough panels are wear and water-resistant. When the floor is needed for a basketball game, the hardboards are simply picked up and moved into storage.

Junior Choirs

Published material which may be helpful to anyone contemplating the organization of a junior choir (look these up in your library) include:

On Organizing and Management of a Volunteer Choir, article by Alfred Walther in *Etude* magazine on music, December, 1938. Address of maga-

zine: 1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Constitution and By-Laws for a Chorus or Choir. Etude magazine, August 1930.

Short Cuts to Choir Success, by Harold Sheldon Byer. Educational Music magazine (Supervisor Service Bulletin), September-October 1934. Address: Educational Music Bureau, 30 East Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois.

City Ski Slope

Situated entirely within city limits, Watertown, New York's new ski slope and ski tow—run by electric motor—are easily accessible to community residents. They are operated by the recreation department, under the leadership of Superintendent John Patterson, as one of the highlights of the winter recreation program.

The ski facility is situated on the northeasterly slope of Thompson Park, which has about 250 acres of land. The ski run is about 1,000 feet in length. Its tow is approximately 600 feet long, serving the steepest portion which is on a twenty-five per cent grade over the 600-foot distance.

A metal building, located at the crest of the hill, houses the tow apparatus and furnishes warming facilities for those who enjoy the sport.

Michigan's Toboggan Run

Midland, Michigan, after operating a toboggan slide built according to the suggestions in George Butler's *Recreation Areas—Their Design and Equipment*, modified its slide with highly satisfactory results. Built of two-by-eight-inch planks for two-thirds the length of the run, and of two-by-six-inch planks for the other third, the slide is like a railroad track with vertical sides. The planks are placed nineteen inches apart and re-enforced every eight feet at the joints, with a four-by-four-inch board, three feet long, embedded in the ground. The full width of the planks is therefore available for the sides of the slide.

Midland also did some experimenting with its starting racks. The first year, a tilting rack was used, but because of too many possibilities for injuries and the need for constant repair, two eight-foot sections of second-hand steel conveyors were substituted for each tilting rack. These are proving ideal—particularly since only a slight push or pull by one of the riders is required to start the toboggan.

An area has been cleared next to the return toboggan slide for a ski hill, and future plans call for further improvement of this area as well as the addition of a ski tow.



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Recreation and Library Job Opportunities with the Army Overseas

The Overseas Affairs Branch of the Department of the Army is in need of trained personnel for employment in Germany and Far East areas (Japan, Guam and Okinawa) as recreation directors and librarians in the Army Service Clubs. There are over two hundred immediate openings.

Applicants for the position of recreation director should be female, between twenty-four and thirty-five years of age, college graduates, with a practical knowledge of arts and crafts, music, dramatics, and adult recreation. The starting base salary is \$2,875 per annum for duty in Japan or Germany, where the employment agreement is for two years, or plus a twenty-five per cent overseas differential for duty in Guam or Okinawa, where the employment agreement is for one year. Transportation overseas and housing are provided without charge by the Army, with the cost of meals averaging from thirty-five to sixty-five dollars per month, depending upon the location of assignment.

In addition to the above, there is a need for professional librarians, between the ages of twenty-one and forty, who are graduates of recognized library schools, and for subprofessional librarians for similar localities, the salary range being \$2,875 to \$3,100 per annum.

Other Openings

Young women with actual experience either in the field of adult recreation or librarianship may qualify for some of the higher-grade openings. There are also a number of openings for experienced manual arts consultants, music entertainment directors and theatrical technicians, starting at \$3,825 per annum.

The mission of the Service Club is to provide for enlisted men and women, their dependents and friends, a friendly, homelike atmosphere in the military community where they may participate during off-duty hours in an organized program of recreation planned and supervised by professional recreation personnel.

For further information, see *NRA Playground and Recreation Bulletin Service*, September 1950, or write to Miss Teresa MacMillan, Special Services Representative, Overseas Affairs Branch, Civilian Personnel Division, Office, Secretary of the Army, Washington, D. C.

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In the Field . . . HAROLD W. LATHROP



IN THE expansion of National Recreation Association field services and the realigning of staff responsibilities in the various districts, one of the able people recently to move on to the list of district representatives is Harold W. Lathrop—well-known for his field work for the association at the state level. His new appointment as “DR” for Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming came as a pleasant surprise to these states.

Harold is an informal, friendly soul, with a breezy western manner. In talking with him, it seems natural to be calling him Harold within a matter of minutes. If you don’t, he’ll suggest it. Also one realizes at once that here is an alert person not only devoted to his job, but interested in many things. He has a way of unexpectedly coming out with information on amazing subjects.

His easy and comfortable way with people and success with state work are explained by his feeling that folks are just folks, be they governors, state recreation chairmen or janitors. On this

basis he enjoys everyone; and this continues to be one of his strengths in his present job. As a matter of fact, he enjoys his job hugely; and he is the sort of person who gets things done.

From his earliest years, he has been interested in *building* and, as a boy, wanted to be a civil engineer. As he grew up in Minneapolis, he watched the building of the city park system. When the first World War broke out, although he hadn’t finished school, he joined the navy—thus interrupting all other plans. This was only temporary, however, for upon his return even a rheumatic disability did not prevent him from registering immediately at Dunwoody Institute for the study of engineering. After his course was completed in 1924, he immediately obtained employment with the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners.

For seven years thereafter, Harold worked and studied, taking many supplementary engineering courses as he needed them. Upon passing an examination for registered professional civil engineers, he became assistant engineer for the park department. Says he: “From 1927 to 1934 I was planning parks and playgrounds for Minneapolis under the tutorship of Theodore Wirth. This was excellent training and I wouldn’t exchange it for a doctorate from any college.” (For a story on Theodore Wirth, see *RECREATION*, March 1949, page 561.—Ed.)

In 1934 he was drafted by the governor to serve as the first director of Minnesota state parks and to write the legislation which would set up a separate state agency to develop and administer them

(Continued on page 404)



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In the Field—

(Continued from page 402)

and make the job permanent. He held that position until September 1946, when he resigned to join the staff of the National Recreation Association.

Harold Lathrop takes it as inevitable that through the years of his park service there should occur a gradual broadening of his interests and concerns to include the recreation field. "Through continuous study of park needs in Minneapolis, and of needs in state government," he explains, "I developed a keener appreciation of how broad this thing is and of how many agencies fit into the picture. In state work I obtained a better insight into what opportunities exist in state government to develop a better use of leisure time."

While he was president of the National Conference on State Parks from 1942 to 1946, he had further opportunity for the study of state park programs and the possibilities which they afford for meeting the recreation needs of people. This opportunity, however, will continue indefinitely, for he has become a life director of the conference. And, during those years, his background of experience was shaping up well for his eventual work for the NRA.

When he came to the association, he brought with him a knowledge of state governments; was well-versed in the over-all programs of all departments in the state of Minnesota; and was secure in the feeling that he had something to contribute to recreation. Accustomed to talking with directors of various departments, he could now put himself in the place of these administrators and appreciate what problems they had to meet in order to sell a recreation program to citizens. "I've always enjoyed talking over people's park and recreation problems," says he. This experience, of course, will also be invaluable to him in his new job.

In his state work, he endeavored to get local recreation departments to use state facilities for some of their outdoor programs when they did not have such facilities of their own—a practice, by the way, which continues to be followed. It was then that he began to understand the elements involved in a broad program.

The NRA state job was a challenge to show to others the potentialities of state services in the field of recreation. As he watched the growth of recreation in the eighteen western states, where he represented the association, and saw how they fitted into the whole recreation pattern either nationally

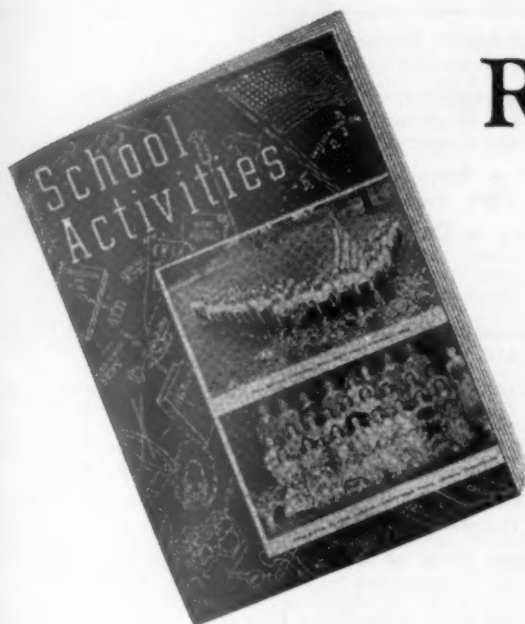
or individually, he found seeing the results of his own work gratifying, indeed.

His state work involved the ferreting out of present activities of state departments and the analyzing of possibilities for an over-all program. He pointed up where more might be done with their present resources, for some expansion, and with conservation, state parks, forests, education and highway departments, library commissions, natural history and historical museums or societies, state publicity bureaus, state planning boards or allied commissions. As a "DR" he will continue this work, and his experience will still be available for special state projects.

Harold makes his home in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, a suburb of Denver, which he says is a good central location for his headquarters. He has a grown son and daughter in Minnesota and is a proud grandfather; but he also has acquired a new family through a second marriage—three girls, ages twenty, nineteen, and seventeen respectively, and a nine-year-old boy. He is very proud of them. His wife, Bea, is interested in his work, travels with him whenever she can, and acts as his secretary. Their home, or "ranch" as they call it, buzzes with activity. Being an engineer, his own leisure-time activities include doing things with his hands—crafts, woodwork, making furniture for the house or working around the ranch. He gets great entertainment from taking time out to aid Bea with her Cub Scouts "den," but his "big challenge" comes from helping his nine-year-old son to develop interests of his own.

However, Harold Lathrop thinks of his job as part of his own recreation, and says gleefully: "I can never get over it. Here I'm spending my time doing what I like to do, and I get paid for it!"





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Magazines and Pamphlets

- Beach and Pool**, September 1950
Physical Education and Recreation Leadership.
How a City Got Wet, James Kingsley.
Combination Project Affords Advantages of Indoor-Outdoor Pool.
Swimming Pools—Athens Style, Part II, Wayne Shields.
Swimming Pool Purification, Part II, Henry Armbrust.
- Nation's Schools**, October 1950
Portfolio on Schoolhouse Planning—Secondary Schools.
Why Contests in Music, Speech and Art Should Be Eliminated, Lowell B. Fisher.
- Beach and Pool**, October 1950
Asphalt Swimming Pools.
- Parks and Recreation**, October 1950
Outdoor Education Vital Function of Parks, Roberts Mann.
An International Square Dance Festival (Chicago).
Winnetka School-Park Baseball Program, George B. Caskey.
New Patton Pool Opens at Detroit, John Tate.
Girls' Playdays, Minnette B. Spector.
The Maintenance Mart.
- Park Maintenance**, October 1950
Floor Costs Cut by Efficient Maintenance Plan, H. H. Slawson.
Why State Parks? Kermit McKeever.
- Scholastic Coach**, October 1950
A Football Field Day, Sterling Geesman.
- Journal of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation**, October 1950
Six-Man Football, C. J. O'Connor.
The Park-School As a Functional Facility, Malcolm Kirkpatrick.
Sportsmanship—What Is It? Elmer D. Mitchell.
- McCall's Playground Booklet**. McCall's, Dayton, Ohio, \$.03.
- Safety Education**, November 1950
Unauthorized Play Spaces.
- Camping Magazine**, November 1950
Music and Crafts Can Go Hand in Hand, Marllys Victor.
Yes—Six-Year-Olds Can Sail, Alice L. Melcher.
Trends in Camping, Gerald Burns.
- Survey**, November 1950
The Social Impact of Television, Frank Riley and James A. Peterson.
- Journal of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation**, November 1950
The F. S. U. Circus, Jack Haskin.
Oklahoma City Community Workshop Trains Volunteer Workers, Xenia B. Nail.
Bait Casting in Winter and Summer, Clifford L. Netherton.
Athletics for All, Lt. Col. W. Austin Bishop.
Industrial Recreation, Jackson M. Anderson.
Soccer—An Ideal Game for the Small School, Robert H. Iglehart.
Fly Casting in Your Physical Education Program, Milton A. Gabrielson.
- American City**, November 1950
Company Gives Park to Bridgeville, Pennsylvania.
Recreation Can Help to Make Democracy Secure, Walter L. Stone.
Berkeley Gets New "Bargain" Recreation Center.
- California Parent-Teacher**, November 1950
Family Fun, William Frederickson, Jr.
- Parks and Recreation**, November 1950
An International Pastime, Vincent DeP. Farrell.
Maintenance Mart.
- Parents' Magazine**, December 1950
What Shall We Do About Television? Howard A. Lane.

Books Received

- All-Sports Record Book**, The, Frank G. Menke. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$5.00.
- American School and University 1950-51**, The. Twenty-second Annual Edition. American School Publishing Corporation, New York. \$4.00.
- Bugs Bunny's Birthday**. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$.25.
- City or Community**, Elizabeth Handasyde. The National Council of Social Service, Incorporated, London. Available through the National Federation of Settlements, Incorporated, New York. \$1.25.
- Communities for Better Living**, James Dahir. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$4.00.
- Crosswords and Quizzes**, edited by Ronny Lewis. Hart Publishing Company, New York. \$1.00.
- Donald Duck's Adventure**, told by Annie North Bedford. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$.25.
- Family Fun Book**. Published by the publishers of *Parents' Magazine*, New York. \$1.00.
- Field Book of Nature Activities**, William Hillcourt. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$3.95.
- Field Book of Seashore Life**, Roy Waldo Miner. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$6.00.
- From Native Roots**, Felix Sper. The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho. \$4.00.
- Halloween Through Twenty Centuries**, Ralph and Adelin Linton. Henry Schuman, New York. \$2.50.
- High Times**, Nellie Zetta Thompson. E. P. Dutton and Company, Incorporated, New York. \$2.50.
- Indians, Indians, Indians**, selected by Phyllis R. Fennel. Franklin Watts, Incorporated, New York. \$2.50.
- Jerry at School**, Kathryn and Byron Jackson. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$.25.
- Leadership of Teen-Age Groups**, Dorothy M. Roberts Association Press, New York. \$3.00.
- Leathercraft Techniques and Designs**, John W. Dean. McKnight and McKnight Publishing Company, Bloomington, Illinois. \$5.00.
- Mickey Mouse's Picnic**, Jane Werner. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$.25.
- Northwest Angling**, Enos Bradner. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$5.00.
- Pets for Peter**, Jane Werner. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$.25.
- Philanthropic Giving**, F. Emerson Andrews. Russell Sage Foundation, New York. \$3.00.
- Planning the Older Years**, edited by Wilma Donahue and Clark Tibbitts. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$2.50.
- Private Independent Schools, A Directory**. James E. Bunting, editor and publisher, Wallingford, Connecticut. \$5.00.
- Radio Plays for Children**, selected and arranged by Katherine Williams Watson. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. \$2.50.
- Square Dances of Today and How to Teach and Call Them**, Richard Kraus. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.
- Tales for Telling**, Katherine Williams Watson. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. \$2.75.



New Publications

Covering the Leisure-time Field

Tales for Telling

Katherine Williams Watson. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. \$2.75.

YOU WILL remember Mrs. Watson, head of the children's department of the Denver Public Library, for her *Radio Plays for Children*, published in 1947 (see November 1947 issue of RECREATION). For some years she conducted a story-telling program over the radio. These stories were published under the title *Once Upon a Time*, the collection proving one of the most popular of the Wilson Company's series of radio publications.

Storytellers, parents, librarians will now welcome *Tales for Telling*, which includes seven stories taken from old volumes of *St. Nicholas*. Among them are such "finds" as Stahl's humorous fairy tale "The Kingdom of the Greedy," and Boyesen's "The Sun's Sisters." In addition to these and a few modern stories, there are unhackneyed selections from old favorites—thirty-three stories in all. These are grouped according to subject and type—Christmas, Easter, fairy and folk tales, farm, Halloween, humor, and so on. The author has timed and adapted all selections so that they will be appropriate for broadcasting.

For the convenience of broadcasters, all but a few are based upon material no longer in copyright, thus eliminating the need for "double permissions." All stories in the volume may be used on non-commercial broadcasts without payment of royalty.

Indians, Indians, Indians

Selected by Phyllis R. Fenner. Franklin Watts, Incorporated, New York. \$2.50.

ACCORDING to the jacket of this book, it contains stories of "tepees and tomahawks, wampum belts and war bonnets, peace pipes and papooses."

From books and magazines, Miss Fenner has gathered together some of the best of recent Indian stories, resulting in a collection glowing with color and excitement and showing a great sympathy for our native Americans who were here long before the white man ever came. Some of the titles are: "Wilderness Road," Jim Kjelgaard; "Buffalo and Injuns," Carol Ryrie Brink; "Drums in the Fog," Rupert Sargent Holland; "Becky's Christmas Turkey," Constance Lindsay Skinner; "The Attack," Elizabeth Coatsworth.

Following Indian Trails

Pamphlet prepared by the Program Department of the Camp Fire Girls, Incorporated, New York. \$.25.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED leadership pamphlet, prepared by the Program Department of the Camp Fire Girls, gives a brief historical presentation of the part American Indians have played in the history of our country and information about legislation affecting the Indians today; a crafts section, basing selection of activities upon an understanding of the Indian; and a section which is a further exploration of ways in which youngsters can become acquainted with the cultural contribution of the Indians to the United States. Bibliographies are included in each section.

Forced Landing

Prepared by Frankie Culpepper Goerges and Frances Loomis Wallace for the Program Department of the Camp Fire Girls, Incorporated, New York.

HERE IS A PAMPHLET giving a novel, modern Robinson Crusoe suggestion for stimulating greater interest in a knowledge of the out-of-doors and in outdoor craft. Combining nature lore and

camp crafts, the idea centers around an imaginary plane trip which is to result in a forced landing and consequent survival until rescue. The preparations necessary for such an emergency include some personal equipment and a knowledge of how to recognize, and make use of, natural surroundings. Planned originally as a project for the Camp Fire resident summer camp, *Forced Landing* has been used successfully in day camp and summer-in-town programs too. This offers a great opportunity to use the imagination and have fun!

Leadership of Teen-Age Groups

Dorothy M. Roberts. Association Press, New York. \$3.00.

IN HER PREFACE, Mrs. Roberts says: "Teen-agers are *people*, not *problems*. They have problems during the process of growing up. Often they cannot solve these problems alone. They need help and will accept it from understanding adults." She goes on to share, with other adults, ideas for organization, leadership and program planning that have proved acceptable to, and effective with, teen-age groups.

Mrs. Roberts, herself, has been active in volunteer work, as advisor to clubs for boys and girls for over twenty years, and here—without technical language—she helps parents and leaders to see the importance of maintaining a balance between adult authority and youthful freedom. Good adult leadership makes the difference between happy, learning groups and unhappy, defiant, passive or aggressive groups and individuals.

Leathercraft Techniques and Designs

John W. Dean. McKnight and McKnight Publishing Company, Bloomington, Illinois. \$5.00.

THIS PARTICULARLY beautiful book, filled with fascinating illustrations and prepared by a widely-known teacher, author and designer, will be a valuable addition to the library of every experienced or would-be leather craftsman. Mr. Dean says in his preface: "The purpose of this book is not to review the many divisions of leathercraft which have been well-covered by other writers but, rather, to add some practical ideas, suggestions and facts to the general fund of information already published on this fascinating hobby and avocation."

The book is filled with helpful hints on design and technique—all instructions being presented clearly and step-by-step. Each procedure has been thoroughly tested by the author and found practi-

cal. The information on coloring and dying leather covers the use of acids, oils, water colors and many other special pigments. One full section is given over to tools and equipment; another to processes; and the largest of all to specific projects. A book of fifty full-size plates has also been published as a companion to this volume.

Skeet and Trapshooting

Dick Shaughnessy with Tap Goodenough. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

WRITTEN by a champion skeet shooter, this is a complete "how-to-do-it" manual. Whether you shoot for points or game, are a beginner or expert, you are bound to find valuable tips in this comprehensive treatment of the subject, with its many illustrative diagrams and photographs showing form and stance. The official rules for this sport are included. An appendix also offers a skeet and trapshooting directory.

Field Book of Nature Activities

William Hillcourt. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$3.95.

THIS HANDY-SIZED nature guide, planned for easy reference, and another addition to Putnam's *Field Books*, offers a collection of ideas for every conceivable nature hobby. It includes instructions for watching wildlife in the fields and for bringing nature into the home, camp, garden or classroom; the making of nature collections, the taking of nature photographs; the making of bottle gardens; and hundreds of suggestions for other specific projects—things to do and make. This is excellent for the tool kit of the recreation leader, camp counselor or teacher.

From the Handcrafters

Modern Felt Handicraft; Metal Modeling Handicraft; Knots and Braids Handicraft.

EACH OF these publications sells for fifty cents and is distributed by The Handcrafters, Wau-pun, Wisconsin.

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Recreation Leadership Courses

(Sponsored jointly by the National Recreation Association and local recreation departments)

December 1950 and January, February 1951

HELEN DAUNCEY Social Recreation	Vermont December 1-15	Mrs. A. O. Brungardt, Vermont Director of Recreation, State Capitol, Montpelier
	Toledo, Ohio January 8-11	A. G. Morse, Supervisor of Recreation, Department of Welfare, 214 Safety Building
ANNE LIVINGSTON Social Recreation	Thibodaux, Louisiana December 4-8	Al LeBlanc, Jr., Superintendent, Lafourche Parish Recreation Commission, Post Office Box 27
	Greensboro, North Carolina January 8-11	Miss Mabel Smith, Director, Women's and Girls' Activities, Parks and Recreation Department
	Fayetteville, North Carolina January 15-18	*Selwyn Orcutt, Superintendent of Recreation and Parks, Room 212, City Hall
	Winston-Salem, North Carolina January 22-25	Lloyd B. Hathaway, Superintendent, Department of Recreation
	Salt Lake County, Utah February 5-8	Paul S. Rose, Superintendent, Salt Lake County Recreation Department, 5177 South State Street, Murray 7
MILDRED SCANLON Social Recreation	Oakland, California February 19-22	Robert W. Crawford, Superintendent, Recreation Department, Municipal Auditorium, 21-Twelfth Street
	Rockford, Alabama January 8-12	C. W. Thompson, Superintendent of Schools, Coosa County
	Monroeville, Alabama January 15-19	H. G. Greer, Superintendent of Schools, Monroe County
	Chatom, Alabama January 22-26	T. B. Pearson, Superintendent of Schools, Washington County
	Camden, Alabama January 29-February 2	W. J. Jones, Superintendent of Schools, Wilcox County
	Opelika, Alabama February 5-9	T. H. Kirby, Superintendent, Opelika City Schools
	Greenville, Mississippi February 12-15	E. M. Ward, Superintendent of Recreation, Park Commission
FRANK STAPLES Arts and Crafts	Greenville, South Carolina January 8-11	Frank Hagan, Greenville Community Council
	Montgomery, Alabama January 15-25	T. A. Belser, Superintendent of Recreation, Room 108, City Hall
	Kinston, North Carolina February 12-22	*W. L. Fay, Superintendent of Recreation
GRACE WALKER Creative Recreation	Pensacola, Florida December 4-8	Julian Olsen, Superintendent, Recreation Department, City Hall
	New Windsor, Maryland December 26-29	Miss Deane G. Rumburg, Secretary, Recreation Laboratory Committee, 329 Market Street, Salem, Virginia

* North Carolina Recreation Commission is participating in the sponsorship and planning of these training courses.

Attendance at training courses conducted by National Recreation Association leaders is usually open to all who wish to attend. For details as to location of the institute, contents of courses, registration procedure and the like, communicate with the sponsors of the courses as listed above.

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